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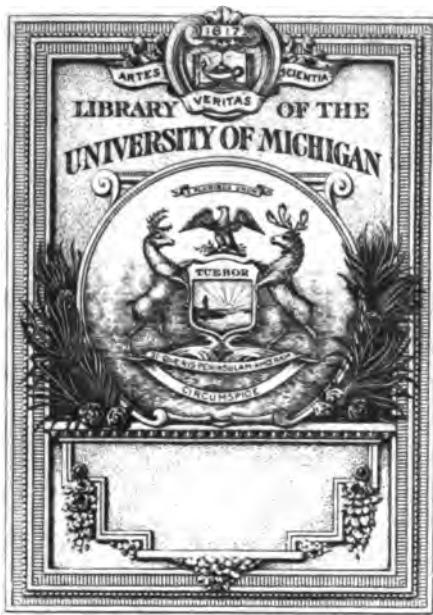
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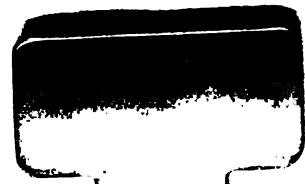
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THE
STATE LETTERS

O F

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HENRY EARL OF CLARENDON
LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND

DURING

THE REIGN OF K. JAMES THE SECOND:

A N D

HIS LORDSHIP'S DIARY FOR THE YEARS
1687, 1688, 1689, and 1690.

FROM THE ORIGINALS IN THE POSSESSION OF

RICHARD POWNEY, Esq.

WITH

AN APPENDIX FROM ARCHBISHOP SANCROFT's
MANUSCRIPTS IN THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY.

O X F O R D,
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P R E F A C E.

THE materials of that branch of history which records the operations of war, and the public occurrences of civil administration, are in every body's hands ; but the negociations of statesmen, and the affairs of the cabinet, are not so easily brought to light ; and unless they be so, transactions most worthy of a place in general history will either remain entirely unknown, or the accounts given of them will be liable to all the mistakes of ill founded conjecture, and to all the misrepresentations of ill intentioned party.

Sometimes it happens that a principal person concerned in a state intrigue, thinks it necessary either for his amusement, or his justification, for the satisfaction of his friends, or in confutation of his enemies, to sit down, after the busy scene is closed, to give an account of what passed. But such performances, unless proper vouchers are produced to support what is asserted, ought to be read with caution, the opportunities of the professed memoir-writer to

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know the truth, being frequently over-ballanced by the temptations he may have to disguise it.

It must give real pleasure, therefore, to every one concerned for the dignity and authenticity of history, to see the *interior* part of it disclosed, and the curtain drawn up, unknown to the actors themselves, by the publication of *letters and memorials*, which were never designed for public inspection ; and which, however carefully concealed in their own age, by variety of accidents find their way to the press at some distant period, and furnish posterity with information denied to those who lived nearest to the time of action.

If any particular instance were necessary to illustrate this general observation, a remarkable confirmation of it may be had, by comparing the history of queen Elizabeth's times as it is now written by Hume and Robertson, with the accounts given of it by other historians, who had not the memorials preserved at Hatfield, and the valuable papers collected by lord Royston, to guide them in their search after truth.

It is to be lamented however, that the repositories of state letters have not, in general, been suffered to be opened, till length of time has too much impaired curiosity. Events, by this means, often lie dormant till it be almost forgotten

forgotten that they ever happened ; and, consequently, the public is not put into possession of the historical truth, till it ceases to be an object of general attention, or of national instruction. I shall hardly be accused of the usual partiality of editors, to the works on which they have bestowed their labour, if I affirm that few collections of state papers have, of late years, appeared (and many important collections have, of late years, appeared) more worthy of the public notice, than those now introduced into the world. They belong to a period of our history, which time hath not, as yet, antiquated ; and they relate events, the important consequences of which can, in no future age, be uninteresting.—All that we boast of, as *Englishmen* and *Protestants*, we owe to the *Revolution*. While we enjoy the invaluable blessings of civil and religious liberty, we shall read with satisfaction, in these volumes, a more authentic account of the strange attempts of king *James* the second, to establish lawless despotism, and to introduce odious superstition, than, perhaps, has ever yet made a part of the general history of his reign. And while we have the fullest view of the dangers from which we escaped, it will be no small addition to the value of the present collection, that it contains many important facts, which throw light on the conduct of those patriots, who had the honesty to resist a tyrant, and happily succeeded in their glorious attempt.

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But it is not my intention, in this preface, to prejudice the reader. The work must speak for itself; and if its own intrinsic merit cannot support it, the commendations bestowed on it by an editor, will only be an argument of his want of judgment, or, of what he can honestly disclaim, his being influenced by a mercenary prospect of reaping any pecuniary advantage from the publication.

The duty of an editor, however, in a publication of this kind, must be complied with. Some account of the noble person, whose name appears on the title page, will be expected; and this expectation shall, as far as I am able, be gratified. A few particulars concerning the several parts of the work itself, will also be very proper to be mentioned; that the reader may know what entertainment is prepared for him, and not have any pretence to complain of disappointment. And, as authenticity must stamp the ultimate value on the whole, the preface shall conclude with the history of the MSS. by tracing them from the writer to the publisher.

The noble person, whose letters and diary are contained in these volumes, was the eldest son of lord chancellor Clarendon.
“ He was very early engaged in great secrets; for his father
“ apprehending of what fatal consequence it would have
“ been to the king’s affairs, if his correspondence had been
“ discovered by unfaithful secretaries, engaged him, when
“ very

"very young, to write all his letters to England in cypher; " so that he was generally half the day writing in cypher, " or decyphering, and was so discreet, as well as faithful, " that nothing was ever discovered by him." Bishop Burnet, whose words I have transcribed,¹ appears to have been well informed. A vast collection of the lord chancellor's papers, is now in the possession of the editor of the present work; and a perusal of them, shews that sir Edward Hyde employed his eldest son in his most secret correspondence, during the five years that preceded the restoration. A copy of a dispatch, to Don Louis de Haro, which bears date from Cologne, the 2d. of august 1655, is the first paper I find in the hand-writing of Mr. Henry Hyde; and from that time, down to the restoration, we meet with innumerable proofs of his industry, and of the entire confidence his father placed in him. The original letters, with his decyphered copies, still exist, and the public may expect them in due time.

Though the Fasti of Anthony Wood,² Collins's Peerage,³ and the Biographia Britannica,⁴ give us some account of our author, they have not mentioned the time of his birth, which our readers will, no doubt, have a desire to know, in order to fix his age when his father began to em-

¹ History of his own Times, vol. i. p. 257. 258. ² Fasti vol. 2^d. p. 131.

³ Vol. 2^d. p. 301. 302. ed. 1741. ⁴ Vol. 4. p. 2737 — 2738.

ploy

ploy him as his secretary. What was omitted in the foregoing repositories of dates, we are enabled to supply from lord Clarendon's own diary. Upon the 2d of june 1688 we read as follows — *I am now, this day, complete fifty years of age,*¹ &c. So that he appears to have been born in 1638 ; and was only in his *seventeenth year* in 1655 ; by which time, we find him, already intrusted with all the se-crets of the cabinet at Cologne.

In the year of the restoration he married Theodosia the daughter of lord Capel :² and in 1662, (by the promotion of the lord chancellor to the title of Clarendon) being now lord Cornbury, he was, upon settling queen Catharine's household, appointed lord chamberlain to her majesty. “ He “ was much in the queen’s favour (says bishop Burnet) and “ his father being so violently prosecuted on account of her “ marriage, she thought herself bound to protect him in a “ particular manner : he was so provoked at the ill usage “ his father met with, that he struck in violently with the “ party that oppofed the court.”³ The debates of the house of commons collected by Mr. Grey, and lately published, furnish repeated instances to confirm this account. We find lord Cornbury making no inconsiderable figure in the list of speakers in opposition to the court, in that collec-

1 Vol. 2^d. p. 34. of the Diary. 2 Wood, and Collins, as above.

3 Burnet’s Hist. of his own Times, vol. 1. p. 257. 258.

tion ;

tion ; particularly, in the year 1673, Mr. Grey has preserved near twenty of his speeches.¹ — On his father's death, about the end of the year 1674, he became earl of Clarendon ; and in the next session of parliament, we see him continuing his opposition, in the house of lords, and even signing a protest, against an address voted to the king on his speech.² All this time, he continued in the queen's family ; for in 1675, a book was dedicated to him under the title of lord chamberlain to her majesty.³ — His attachment to the duke of York, having brought him into favor at court, he was made a privy counsellor on the 26th of may 1680 ;⁴ but soon fell under the displeasure of the prevailing party in the house of commons, who, unable to carry the exclusion bill, shewed their resentment against those, who were supposed to have advised his majesty never to consent to it, by voting an address to the king, on the 7th of january 1681,⁵ to remove from his presence and councils George earl of Halifax, Laurence Hyde Esqr. Henry marquis of Worcester, Lewis earl of Feversham, and *Henry earl of Clarendon*.

On the accession of king James the second in february 168⁵, he was made lord privy seal,⁶ and in december, the

¹ Grey's debates, vol. 2^d. passim.

² See the lords protests for 1675.

³ Biographia Brit. v. 4. p. 2737.

⁴ Wood's Fasti, vol. 2. p. 131.

⁵ Chandler's debates, vol. 2. p. 69.

⁶ Salmon's chronological hist. of that year.

same year, he was constituted lord lieutenant of Ireland. How he conducted himself in that kingdom, will be best known from his own letters, which make the principal part of the following work. History,¹ indeed, has already done him this justice, that being too firmly attached to the protestant religion, he was recalled from his government in january 168⁶/₇ to make room for lord Tyrconnel; and, on the 11th of march he was turned out of his place, as lord privy seal, that lord Arundel of Wardour, another papist, might succeed him.² One who had thus occupied the highest offices in the state, and been removed³ from them, for reasons so honorable, could not but be of some consequence, while the revolution was in agitation: what part therefore he acted in that ever memorable transaction, will be best related by himself in his diary; and we shall close our account of him by mentioning in general, that having refused to take the oaths to king William, he passed the rest of his life in a private manner in the country, and died on the 22d of october 1709.

Solicitous only for the interests of truth, and having no view, in the present publication, but to throw light on a most important period of the English history, it would be

¹ In general every historian of James the 2d's reign, mentions as the cause of lord Clarendon's being recalled from Ireland, that the king found him too good a protestant. ² Salmon's chronolog. hist. 1687. ³ About this time he was made high steward of the university of Oxford. Wood's Fasti, as above.

foreign

foreign to my purpose in this preface, either to censure or to commend Henry earl of Clarendon, for the part he acted in the busy scene. However, though I shall take care neither to expose myself to the slight charge of indulging a good-natured partiality, by expatiating on his private virtues, nor to deserve the severer reproach of an unnecessary and invidious examination of the consistency of every part of his public conduct, it will certainly be incumbent upon me, to hazard some reflections and remarks, founded on the facts I have already mentioned, or may still produce; and which I am confident, will place the abilities, the talents for public busines, and the importance of the *political character* of lord Clarendon in such a light, as may encourage the reader to expect entertainment, and to hope for instruction from his lordship's accounts of the great events in which he was so deeply concerned; and may justify me for adding him to Mr. Walpole's catalogue of noble authors.

That so penetrating a judge of the characters of men as lord chancellor Clarendon indisputably was, should put such confidence in his eldest son when he was only seventeen years of age, as to engage him in secrets and to employ him in busines, an improper communication of which must necessarily have defeated the negociations then on foot for restoring the king; and that, from the year 1655, to the happy completion of the great event in 1660, no instance

of youthful levity, culpable neglect, or weak surprize should happen to make the father repent his choice of a secretary; this remarkable anecdote, seems to justify, in the fullest manner, the inference I would now draw from it, that Henry earl of Clarendon was born with talents for public business; which when matured by age, and enlarged by experience, could not but qualify him to fill the highest offices of state, with a sufficient share of dexterity. The usual employment he had of putting his father's letters into cypher, and of decyphering those written to his father from England required a degree of prudence, assiduity, attention and acuteness, which, perhaps, intitled him to a higher commendation than that which bishop Burnet bestows on him, of *fidelity and discretion.*¹

In confirmation of this favorable view I give of his abilities, at so early a period of his life, I have it in my power to inform the public, that by looking into the vast collection of the Clarendon MSS, already referred to by me, and which are reserved for a future publication, I find Mr. Henry Hyde was not merely the copyer and the decypherer of the dispatches written by others, during the king's exile, but was, even then, trusted with some share of the correspondence himself.²

¹ Burnet's history, as above. ² There are many letters to Mr. Henry Hyde from lord Culpeper, lord Newburgh, Dr. Morley and other persons of consequence who had followed the king's fortunes beyond sea, but lived at a distance from Charles's court.

It

It is an additional honor to the noble person whose remains are now made public, that the confidence reposed in him before the restoration was never afterwards withdrawn, but *he continued to be the person whom his father trusted most.*¹ — It might have been alledged, perhaps that the prime minister of the banished Charles (whose indigent court scarcely subsisted with decency on the begging privy seals that were circulated throughout England, and on a scanty and ill paid pension furnished by Spain) did not employ his son in his secret correspondence from choice, on observing him possessed of talents, suitable to that trust, but from mere inability to defray the expense of an abler and more aged secretary. But, surely, Clarendon, no longer starving with his master at Cologne and Brussels, but directing the cabinet at London in the happier and more affluent times that succeeded, at the restoration, could have no motive for *continuing to trust his own son most*, but the well-grounded remarks he had made on his character; and a conviction confirmed by a trial and experience of several years, that amongst the numerous dependants and friends who now surrounded him and shared his prosperity, no person could be found better qualified to assist him, in his most secret and important business. And that this great minister continued thus to distinguish his son, as Burnet

¹ Burnet's hist.

affuses

assures us, I find remarkably is confirmed by most authentic proofs. The original letters that passed between the lord chancellor Clarendon, and the *surintendant* Fouquet, are now before me; and upon examining these valuable MSS, I find that even this negociation, a negociation concealed from ministers and ambassadors, and carried on with such secrecy that Fouquet *desired that the chancellor would always write with his own hand in english,*¹ was intrusted to Mr. Henry Hyde.²

It seemed highly necessary I should take some pains to restore the character of the second earl of Clarendon to its due importance. While we consider him, merely, as the bigotted nonjuror, plotting to restore a tyrant whom he had honestly resisted, and passing his last twenty years in obscurity under a government, which he had the weakness to disown, though he had contributed to its establishment, we are apt to forget he had in an earlier period of his life, given convincing proofs of his possessing talents that qualified him for public busines.

The characters of men are strangely mixed; and it is not uncommon, to see a certain degree of capacity, united

¹ See an account of this correspondence in the continuation of lord Clarendon's life, p. 90 — to 94. ² In one of the letters, dated may the 9th 1661, the chancellor says, *There is not the least knowlege of this correspondence to any but my son, who is as secret as he ought to be.*

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in the same person with the narrowest prejudices in some particular instances. Archbishop Laud, as appears from his diary, had a ridiculous weakness of mind with regard to dreams and omens ; and yet he was capable of reasoning against Fisher the jesuit, with a strength of argument, and a depth of learning that will always preserve his character from contempt. But besides this well known part of the second earl of Clarendon's public conduct, which so indisputably proves that he was under the influence of vulgar prejudices with regard to the first principles of government, the reader probably will observe that bishop Burnet seems to have described him, as a person of mean capacity in general. " His judgment, says the right reverend historian of his own times, was not much to be depended upon, being carried by vulgar prejudices and false notions, — and the king (Charles the 2d) always spoke of him with great sharpness and much scorn." — Perhaps there should be no great stress laid on what falls, unsupported by particular instances, from the pen of a writer remarkable for his free touches, if not culpable for his hasty censures, on the characters of those whose party connections were opposite to his own. In such cases, the bishop himself has put us upon our guard ; for the following are his own words, and fully justify my recommending caution to the readers of his historical portraits. " An historian that favors his own

ⁱ Burnet's history, vol. i. p. 254.

" side,

" side, is to be forgiven, though he puts too much life in
" his colours, when he sets out the best sides of his party,
" and the worst of those from whom he differs: and if he
" but slightly touches the failings of his friends, and se-
" verely aggravates those of the other side, though in this
" he departs from the laws of an exact historian, yet this
" bias is so natural, that if it lessens the credit of the wri-
" ter, yet it does not blacken him."¹ Such then being the
doctrine avowed by bishop Burnet, it will be a very natural
question, whether he has not *put too much life in his colours,*
and severely aggravated the failings of the second lord Clarendon, in the unfavorable portrait of him that he has
drawn? And it is fortunate for the memory of his lordship, that the collection of parliamentary debates by Mr.
Grey hath made its appearance, at a critical moment, to furnish me with facts which place the abilities of the noble
person, whose remains are contained in these volumes, in
no contemptible light.

We can easily suppose, indeed, that lord Cornbury might
be spoken of with scorn by Charles and his profligate cour-
tiars, for urging it, in one of his speeches, as a reason for
removing Buckingham from the king's councils, that *he had murdered the husband (lord Shrewsbury) and lived in*
*perpetual adultery with that miserable woman.*² But what-

¹ Burnet's reflections on the history of Mr. Varillas, p. 7. and 8.

² Grey's debates, vol. 2d. p. 252.

ever

ever scorn Charles might express, without doors, Mr. secretary Coventry the manager of the court party, and the shameless advocates of the infamous *Cabal*, had no reason to express such scorn within doors. The speeches of lord Cornbury, as preserved by Mr. Grey, have not the appearance of coming from a man *whose judgment was not much to be depended upon, and who was led by false notions*. While they teach us to respect him as an honest man, for daring to oppose supplies till grievances were redressed,¹ though he wore the key of lord chamberlain to the queen ; they, at the same time, are as sensible as they are spirited ; and particularly, in the debates on lord Arlington, the reasons he urges, for preferring an address to remove that minister from the king, *to an impeachment, are not unworthy of one trained up under the great Clarendon, and animated with a considerable share of his abilities.*²

We may add to this, that if Charles the second spoke of the second lord Clarendon with scorn, at one time, when he was in opposition, he certainly had altered his opinion, and thought him a person of a respectable political charac-

¹ Oct. 31. 1673, in a debate on the king's speech, we find lord Cornbury saying — *All he has is from the king, and he would willingly give it again, if he calls for it; he has begged for the king, and wanted for him, and would willingly do so again; — would vote, that money be not considered till grievances are redressed.* Grey's debates, vol. 2. p. 204. ² See Grey's debates, vol. 2. p. 266. 269, 285, 286, 293, 297, 311, 314, 319. &c.

ter, when he called him to his councils, at a busy and most dangerous crisis. Nor did the great leaders of the opposition in the times of the exclusion bill think him an object of scorn, when they levelled the thunder of the house of commons against him, and thought him of consequence enough to be joined in the same censure, with lords Halifax and Rochester.

I have been naturally led by facts, to do this justice to a character against which an unsupported charge of inability hath been brought. But, perhaps, the readers of the second volume of this work, will be of opinion, that lord Clarendon has sufficiently revenged himself on Burnet. The world will now be able to judge, which of the two, the right reverend historian, or the noble diary writer,¹ draws the foibles of the other's character nearest to the life. And probably a question may occur to those who peruse the diary for the year 1688, whether it was a greater instance of want of political foresight in the writer of it, to suppose that the nation could be saved from the tyranny of king James without raising the prince of Orange to the throne, than it was of want of political discretion in Dr. Burnet, to be so unguarded and open in his discourses concerning the secret views of the prince's party, to lord Clarendon, whom he suspected of *not being right in the prince's interest.*²

¹ See the diary, vol. 2. p. 99. 100. 104. 105. 108.

² Diary, p. 105.

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But, after all, the present volumes would be highly worthy of the attention of the public, though we had not been able to produce facts, which raise the abilities of Henry earl of Clarendon, above the standard at which they are fixed by bishop Burnet. The powers of genius, and the ornaments of composition are indeed necessary, to stamp a value on the work of the professed historian ; but the letters of a statesman derive their principal utility from the situation of the writer, not from his capacity ; from his having been employed in the state secrets, however unequal to the trust ; in a word, from his opportunities of knowing the determinations of the cabinet, however unqualified to direct and to advise them. Whatever portion therefore, of political sagacity belongs to our author, the present publication must be able to support its own merit, without borrowing any from his personal character. That he was trusted with the government of Ireland is sufficient to make the public desirous of reading an account of his proceedings in that kingdom in his letters to the ministry at London ; as they lay open the whole plan of attacks made by king James on liberty and religion : and a diary, for the year of the revolution, promises both entertainment and instruction, when we know already from history, that the writer of it was of such consequence in the state, that he was one of the protestant lords summoned by the king, when it was too late, to repair the miscarriages of his po-

pish counsellors, and that he had spirit enough to take the lead in that memorable assembly.¹

What hath been observed concerning the character of Henry earl of Clarendon, and the opportunities he had, from his situation, to know the most secret transactions of state, and to have a share in conducting them, cannot fail to give the reader a reasonable expectation of being instructed and entertained, by the work now put into his hands; and, I flatter myself, that a particular account of the several parts of it, to which I now proceed, will shew that, probably, this expectation will be gratified.

Many collections of state papers, however useful and valuable upon the whole, have consisted of detached pieces, unconnected by any other uniformity of parts besides the weak tie of a chronological order, and which, though they may bring to light particular anecdotes, have not been so perfect as to give a full view of any one great object of historical inquiry. From this it has happened that such publications are fitter to be occasionally consulted, than to be read; and writers of history have been left in full possession

¹ "The earl of Clarendon reflected the most on the king's former conduct, of any in that assembly, not without some indecent and insolent words, which were generally condemned." Burnet's hist. vol. 1. p. 794. — What Burnet calls *indecent and insolent* words, lord Clarendon himself calls speaking *with great freedom*. See the diary, vol. 2d. p. 93. 94. 95.

of

of them, as mines from which they may dig materials, and report to the world, what treasure they have found amidst the heaps of rubbish they have turned over. But this is far from being the case of the present volumes. The letters of Henry earl of Clarendon, are not merely materials for historians, but they are history. They contain a complete account of his government in Ireland, from the day he entered upon it, to the moment he embarked again for England, upon his being recalled; and the chain of the correspondence is never broken, by the absence of so much as one link. From the nature of this correspondence, every part of the instructions he came vested with from king James, and every subsequent direction he had from him, is occasionally laid open to the reader. The letters, though unadorned with any remarkable elegance of composition, are, however, far from being contemptible, even in this respect. They fully express the meaning of the writer, without disgusting the reader; and if the second lord Clarendon cannot boast of that richness of expression, and agreeable painting, which we admire in the writings of the great chancellor, he has not those involved periods, and that superfluity of diction to answer for, which sometimes, (if I may venture to give my opinion) borders upon tediousness and tautology.

In a stile, therefore, which doth not disgrace the man of busines, a scene is disclosed, in the letters from Ireland,

land, which unavoidably commands the attention of every one who would be glad to see the revolution fully justified, by a most authentic account of the whole plan of the encroachments meditated by king James, on the protestant establishment in Ireland; a prelude to what his English protestant subjects were to expect in due time. Transactions, unattended by circumstances that are striking in their own nature, may become most interesting, and important, when considered as the causes of great public revolutions that afterwards happened. In this view, therefore, the various particulars which occur in lord Clarendon's dispatches; the odious prosecutions, on account of words reflecting on the king, when duke of York, which call to our minds the tyranny of a Tiberius, and the villanies of his *informed*; the encouragement given to the popish bishops, unknown to the protestant governor of Ireland, to hold public assemblies, and to wear their habits at Dublin; the keeping vacant the church preferments, that the revenues appropriated by law for the maintenance of a protestant establishment, might furnish a fund for subsisting the popish clergy; the orders repeatedly sent to make papists members of corporations, justices of the peace, sheriffs, privy counsellors, and *judges*,¹ in defiance of law; the arbitrary reversals of

¹ Lord Clarendon upon the king's naming the popish judges desired, that the king's letters for dispensing with the oaths to them should be entered at the signet office. See vol. i. p. 189. In the same letter his lordship has this remarkable sentence. — *This is the first time the oath of supremacy has ever been dispensed*

outlawries ; and (what was a principal object of the attention of the court) the infamous modelling of the army, by turning out not only the protestant officers but also the private men of that persuasion, to put the sword into the hands of the native Irish, whose animosity against the English interest had been discovered by their former rebellions, and to guard against whose future insurrections it had been thought necessary to continue an army in Ireland, when the acts of settlement were made after the restoration ; — these, and other similar transactions referred to in lord Clarendon's letters, will command our attention ; when we consider them as the provocations which at last obliged even the friends of passive obedience to confute their own slavish doctrines by their actions, and to cooperate with those who called in the prince of Orange to save the constitution.

We have already, indeed, in archbishop King's *State of the protestants in Ireland*, a most melancholy view of the distress of that unfortunate people, when rescued by king William. But many of the instances of cruel oppression related in that book, were subsequent to the revolution in England : and, therefore, it is of more consequence to be

dispensed with in a judicial place, and it is a breach of the law. — The original letter of the king, countersigned by lord Sunderland is in Mr. Powney's possession, being found amongst lord Clarendon's loose papers, but too late to have a place in this work. The mention now made of it, in a great measure makes the publication of it unnecessary.

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able to discover, as we do in the present work, how far the plan for abolishing the protestant religion in Ireland had been sketched out, two years before king James and his popish administration could have any pretence for urging the plea of self-defence, as an excuse for the strange cruelties they exercised. I shall only observe that the many remarkable instances to be met with in lord Clarendon's letters of the extravagant temper of lord Tyrconnel, ¹ when he was only lieutenant general of the army, confirm all that has been said by archbishop King concerning his conduct when vested with the supreme command in Ireland, and at a time when his master no longer preserved the least appearance of equity and moderation, towards his protestant subjects in that kingdom.

¹ It may not be unentertaining, just to mention that lord Clarendon the father, has transmitted to posterity an account of the steps by which this strange man rose to that greatness, which lord Clarendon the son shews he supported so unworthily. He was one of the five brothers of the name of Talbot whom the chancellor found so troublesome in Flanders, before the restoration, by their intrigues in opposition to his administration. Dick Talbot (as he was usually called) the youngest of these Irish adventurers, recommended himself to the duke of York, *being that he was a very handsome young man, wore good cloaths, and was of a clear and ready courage.* The chancellor confirms this account of Dick Talbot's courage by two instances, his having engaged to assassinate Cromwell, and his second attempt in that honorable way, against the duke of Ormonde. — Such being the merit of the man, no wonder that he should be raised to the highest honors, and be looked upon as a fit instrument to execute the violent measures of king James in Ireland. Dick Talbot and lord Tyrconnel are the same person. See the continuation of lord Clarendon's life, where the characters of all the five brothers are drawn, p. 362. 3. 4.

It

It must add to the value of lord Clarendon's letters from Ireland, that, besides his public correspondence with the king and his prime minister Sunderland, we find him constantly carrying on a private correspondence with his brother, the lord treasurer Rochester, in which all his secrets, and all his complaints, are disclosed without reserve ; and many topics are occasionally treated of, that do honor to the characters of both the brothers. That they continued to act under king James, so long as they did, cannot perhaps be vindicated ; but they did it *with a purpose of doing as much good, as they were able, and of hindering as much evil, as they possibly could, in that unfortunate juncture of affairs.* This was lord Rochester's own apology, according to bishop Sprat.¹ And we shall be still more inclined to be favorable to their characters, when we consider what personal obligations they had to the king their brother in law, and what notions they had imbibed of the guilt of resistance, from having seen the prevalence of rebellion, and felt the mischiefs of anarchy. Had they lived now, in happier times, when the bounds between prince and people are fixed by the revolution, and under a king as amiable in his private character as he is virtuous in the exercise of the rights vested in the crown by the constitution ; those justly exploded principles of unlimited submission which seem to

¹ Sprat's letter to the earl of Dorset, p. 7.

have influenced the conduct of lords Clarendon and Rochester under king James, would have been refined into that due subordination, and constitutional attachment to the crown, which is so far from being inconsistent with the liberties of the people, that it cannot be destroyed without introducing all the madness of mob administration, or reviving all the mischiefs of Oliverian despotism.

State business transacted at a distance from court, cannot be supposed to exist, unless a regular communication, by letters, be kept up between the subordinate agent, and the ministers who guide the cabinet. But when the several actors in the political drama, have daily opportunities of meeting each other, their business of course, will be carried on by conference, not by correspondence; and thus the greatest revolutions may be brought about, without the existence of any paper of consequence, which may give information to posterity. In such scenes of unwritten negotiation, the second lord Clarendon acted no inconsiderable part; and it is fortunate for the public, that he kept a *diary* of every thing that happened during a most interesting period. This diary succeeds his letters from Ireland, in the second volume, and I make no doubt will be found highly worthy of a place in the present work.

It was sometime under deliberation, whether the whole manuscript of this diary should be published, or only such extracts

extracts made from it, as related to public affairs. But the publication of the whole was resolved upon, for this single consideration, that whoever is admitted to see it, in its original nakedness, must conclude that it was not written for the inspection of others but only designed to refresh lord Clarendon's own memory, and consequently that we may safely rely on the truth of what he relates. There may be some reason for reading with caution and diffidence, the well told tale of one who sits down with the professed intention to write for the public, and to make himself the hero of his own performance: but there cannot be the least ground for suspecting imposition, from the artless relations of a diary never meant to extend beyond the closet. Perhaps I may be blamed, by some, for breaking in upon lord Clarendon in his retirement; but he had treasured up too many valuable secrets, not to disclose them, to those who may be benefitted and instructed by them: and while we see him, from time to time, mixed with ministers and statesmen, and admitted to the closets both of king James, and of the prince of Orange, during the progress of the revolution, we shall be contented to go along with him in his visits to sir Richard Belling, and sir Thomas Clarges, and permit him to tell us every private occurrence during the day. The diary during 1688, and part of 1689 abounds indeed, with most important anecdotes; and these, it is to be imagined, will atone for the many trifling articles we shall meet with, particularly, after his adherence to his al-

legiance to king James had banished him from public business, and confined him within the narrow circle of his non-juring friends, and the occupations of his country retirement. However, perhaps, there may be some entertainment received even from the domestic and least interesting articles of his journal. They present us with a picture of the manners of the age, in which he lived. We may learn, at least, from them that at the close of the last century, a man of the first quality, made it his constant practice to go to church, and could spend the day in society with his family and friends, without shaking his arm at a gaming table, associating with jokies at Newmarket, or murdering time by a constant round of giddy dissipation, if not of criminal indulgence. Diaries were not uncommon in the last age. Part of archbishop Laud's has been long ago printed; lord Anglesey, who made so great a figure in the reign of Charles the 2d left one behind him; ¹ one written by the

¹ Sir Peter Pett has given us one article from this diary, viz. on march the 8th. 1685. "Spent most at home on business and duty. (i. e. prayer) In "the evening was private with the lord Sunderland, my good friend; and "then was with the king a full hour, at Mr. Chiffinch's; who was very kind, "free, and open in discourse: said he would not be priest-ridden." I have transcribed this passage, which is preserved in Pett's dedication of his *memoirs* (as he calls them) of Arthur earl of Anglesey; because, from this specimen, the reader will see that lord Anglesey's diary was kept much in the same manner, as his friend lord Clarendon kept his.—The world would have been more obliged to sir P. Pett, for his diary, than they now are, for publishing a panegyric of lord Anglesey's, on a controversial book written by sir Peter himself.

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late duke of Shrewsbury, I am well assured still exists ; and I am confident that every lover of historical truth, will rejoice that so valuable a part of lord Clarendon's, has escaped the havock of time, and with his state letters is, at last, become the property of the public.

It would have been an unpardonable omission in the editor of lord Clarendon's remains, if he had sent them into the world, from the Oxford pres, without having recourse to the Bodleian library for some very curious MSS. of archbishop Sancroft, there preserved, relating to the times of James the second. These therefore, are added as an appendix to the second volume ; and very properly have their place there, as the greater number of them treat of the same interesting topics, which occur in the diary. And indeed there seems to be a peculiar fitness in joining the papers of two great men, whose political conduct was the same ; both of them having had so great a regard to the constitution as to oppose king James's incroachments ; and yet both of them refusing to transfer their allegiance to the new establishment.

The papers in the appendix, need little or no commentary. Many of them do honor to the characters of those prelates whose spirited behavior in the affair of their petition against reading the declaration, roused the great body of the nation from the lethargy, they had too long been in,

in, and contributed, more than any other transaction of those times, to the happy change which soon after happened. But what passed between king James, and the seven bishops with regard to their signing the petition, is more generally known, than what passed between his majesty and some of his bishops,¹ concerning the abhorrence he wanted them to sign, of the prince of Orange's design. Bishop Sprat has indeed given us, in his second letter to the earl of Dorset,² a general account of what passed in the king's closet, on that memorable occasion. But his more extended and particular relation of it, now first published in our appendix, and archbishop Sancroft's own very curious journal, of that transaction, will be received as most valuable accessions to the history of king James's reign.

But of all the papers which enrich the appendix, the dispensation to Maffey dean of Christ's Church, is the most remarkable; as the existence of any such dispensation, seems to have escaped the inquiries of every historian of king James's reign. When bishop Burnet tells us that *the deanery of Christ's Church, was given to Maffey, one of the new converts: — who at first went to prayers in the chapel, but soon after declared himself more openly;*³ by this lame account the bishop allows his readers to believe that some appearances were saved, and that Maffey had not absolutely

¹ Canterbury, London, Rochester and Peterborough. ² From p. 44.
to p. 49. ³ Burnet's history of his own time, p. 696. vol. I.

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disclaimed protestantism, till after he was in possession of his deanery. But we now know the contrary; and future historians, will justly treat the dispensation granted to this popish dean of Christ's Church as the most alarming of all the attacks made by king James the second on the constitution.

In the affair of Magdalen college, the rights of a private corporation only were invaded; and though nothing could be more illegal than the proceedings of the king in this business, he could, however, appeal to precedents of such interpositions of the crown, in former times, and insist that he had done little more, in forcing a president on Magdalen college, than queen Elizabeth had done, in forcing a chancellor on the university of Oxford. — In other instances,

1. This happened in 1591, when queen Elizabeth put her negative on the earl of Essex, whom the university would have chosen. Murden has published some curious letters in his collection, concerning this anecdote, which seems to be little known. — December the 9th. 1591, Mr. T. Smith writes thus to sir Robert Cecil from Oxford. “Being come hither I find my lord (Essex) to have so many more voices than any other, as if it might come to an election, it were out of controversy; but they which are otherwise ad- dicted hope to work their purpose by an extraordinary way of nomination at court.. It may please your honor to think upon my lord in this matter, and to maintain both the liberty of the university, and the love of university men towards his lordship.” — On the 11th of december Mr. Smith writes to Dr. White to the same effect; but it appears his applications at court were to no purpose, for on the 17th of december (as we learn from Wood's Fasti under the year 1591) Thomas Sackville lord Buckhurst was chosen chancellor by letters from the queen. — Lord Essex's letter to sir Robert Cecil, dated.

when king James exercised his dispensing power, to qualify papists for civil or military employments, the church of England was still left in full possession of it's establishment. But in the case of Maffey, there was a formal attack upon every part of the constitution; and it is as strange as it is certain that, at the very time, when nothing more was attempted in Ireland against the established church there, than by keeping some of the bishopricks vacant, the deanery of Christ's Church in Oxford, one of the first dignities of the church of England, should be conferred on a papist. — Bishop Burnet dates the lawfulness of resistance to king James, from his treatment of the seven bishops, in 1688, which *satisfied him*, he says, *that a total destruction of our constitution was designed.*¹ Had he known any thing of Maffey's dispensation he might have satisfied himself of the king's intentions, near two years sooner: for this important paper, which seems to have been industriously secreted at

dated from Roan december the 23d, on hearing this news, is worth transcribing. "I have even now heard, that the queen, in favor of lord Buckhurst, "will take from me that which the university of Oxford would bestow; and "ere I read my letters the news of the prince of Parma's passing of Oyse, "and coming with all speed hither, did arrive: the first made me say I had "lived too long to be so dealt withal by her I held so dear: the last shewed "me the fairest tomb, that ever unfortunate man was buried in. If I die, "pity me not; for I die with more pleasure than I live with. If I escape. "comfort me not: for the queen's wrong, and her unkindness is too great. "Your assured friend,

"E s s e x."

[See Murden's collection of state papers, p. 649. 650.]

¹ See his history, vol. i. p. 745.

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the time, bears date dec. 16. 1686; and it appears from the chapter books of Christ's Church, that Massey *produced and pleaded it, on dec. 29. 1686, and was admitted dean, by Dr. Aldrich sub-dean.*

With regard to the appendix, I shall only add that I think five papers are inserted there, not belonging to archbishop Sancroft. Two of these papers, lord Clarendon's speech to the council on his taking possession of his government at Dublin, and his last letter to king James, after lord Tyrconnel's superceding him, are in Mr. Powney's collection; who also has the originals of Dr. Ironside's (the vice-chancellor of Oxford) letters to lord chancellor Jefferies, and to lord Middleton: and the examination of Theodore Cade, about the scheme to get the duke of Berwick legitimated by the pope, was kindly communicated by Dr. Birch, whose zeal to assist his friends can be exceeded only by his diligence and abilities, exerted so frequently in works of public utility.

Nothing now remains, but to give some account of the state of lord Clarendon's MSS, from which the present work is printed, and of the manner of their preservation and conveyance to the pres.

The diaries for the years 1687, 1689, and 1690 are in lord Clarendon's own hand-writing; that for 1688 is
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printed from a copy collated with the earl's original.¹ With regard to the letters from Ireland, the bulk of them are transcripts of an amanuensis ; I think only eight are in his lordship's own hand ; but as these are entered in the same volume with the rest, and interspersed amongst them, this would have given full authenticity to the whole, even though I had not been able to trace them up to the family.

Henry earl of Clarendon married a second wife, the widow of sir William Backhouse of Swallowfield in Berkshire. I mention this circumstance as it leads to the history of the present publication. This lady had a near relation (I am informed a nephew) Mr. Bryan Richards, whose name frequently occurs in the diary ; and it was to this person the third earl of Clarendon gave, amongst other things, a vast collection of papers, belonging to his father, who was under obligations, of considerable consequence, to Mr. Richards, which it seems never were discharged, as appears from papers under his lordship's own hand, that still exist. From this Mr. Richards, these MSS. came into the possession of his son, now living at Wokingham in Berkshire, who in 1757 transferred his property in them to Richard Powney esqr. high steward of Maidenhead, to whom the public is indebted for the present publication.

¹ Mr. Richards of Wokingham lent the original MS. of the diary for 1688, to one Mr. Carlton, about twenty years ago ; who never returned it. Mr. Richards however, had been so fortunate as to take a copy, from which we printed, and which has been collated with another copy, taken from the original since it was out of Mr. Richard's possession.

Mr. Powney's

Mr. Powney's connexions with our university, will probably incline him to lodge in the Bodleian library the MSS. of lord Clarendon, from which the present work has been printed. But more may be expected from him than this; and indeed more may be depended upon. For it is with particular satisfaction, I have it in my power to inform the public, before I conclude this preface, that besides the papers of the second earl of Clarendon now published, Mr. Richards has put into Mr. Powney's possession, *some thousands of letters formerly* belonging to lord chancellor Clarendon. We have already observed that his lordship carried on his most secret correspondences, by means of his eldest son. This unreserved confidence, of course, put the second earl of Clarendon in possession of many of his father's most valuable MSS.; and Mr. Powney was eager to get the property of them transferred to him by Mr. Richards; that so valuable a collection of the most important state secrets, might not continue to moulder away, lost to the public, and (which is still more extraordinary) their very existence unknown to the descendants of the great chancellor. I have now before me two letters of the late lord Cornbury writ

Mr. Powney has not published all the letters of lord Clarendon from Ireland. There is one large volume of letters to the treasury in England, on the state of the Irish revenue, which could be of no use, and could afford no entertainment now, and therefore not published. Another volume, containing the office letters to the army, is also omitted; as also is every other part of his correspondence that has no immediate connexion with the events that are interesting to the public.

to Mr. Richards, in the year 1737, on this subject. From these letters it appears, that his lordship had but just learnt that such a collection of his great grandfather's papers existed, out of his possession; and he expresses himself under the highest obligations to Mr. Richards for sending him a box full of them.

But, though Mr. Powney's collection of the lord chancellor Clarendon's papers, be as valuable as it is bulky; yet, as Mr. Richards had, many years before, sent a very considerable share of them to lord Cornbury; and as, no doubt, before that accession, the family had many of their great ancestor's MSS. in their possession transmitted to them from the lord treasurer Rochester, it has been the great object of Mr. Powney to endeavor to reunite into one body a correspondence thus broken and divided, and whose utility and importance to the public must be in proportion to the apt coherence of its several parts. With a view to this, care has been taken to consult the noble representatives of the late lord Cornbury; and, I think, such arrangements are proposed, if not already agreed upon between the parties concerned, as will bring about the reunion of the scattered MSS. of the great Clarendon, the publication of which, I may venture to say, will throw as much light on the *restoration*, as the present volumes do, on the revolution.

LETTERS

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OF

HENRY EARL OF CLARENDON.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, Jan. 10. 168 $\frac{1}{2}$.

AFTER a long journey, and tedious stay at Holyhead for a wind, I arrived safe here, god be praised, yesterday in the forenoon. I went immediately according to the usual form to the council-chamber, where the king's commission was read, and the oaths administered to me: the rest of the day was spent in the necessary formalities of receiving visits. Your lordship will not expect that I should have any thing of the publick affairs to entertain you with at this time. This is only to let you know that I am where I ought to be, and will immediately fall to the execution of this great trust, which the king has been pleased to honour me with, whereof I shall have occasion to give your lordship almost a daily account, which I shall do with all the fidelity imaginable, and shall pay a punctual observance of all your lordship's commands, as well in what relates

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to your own particular, if you please to honour me with any such, as to the king's service. And I beseech your lordship to look on me, as I am with perfect respect,

My Lord,

Your &c.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, January 12. 1686.

CAPTAIN Florence Carty in the earl of Granard's regiment is lately dead; which I beg your lordship to lay before his majesty, and to send over a commission, for whom his majesty shall think fit to bestow that command upon. The two first in the list your lordship gave me are the lord Brittas, and captain Butler, my lord Galmoy's brother. Whom the king intends to provide for first, his majesty is the best judge: captain Butler has served abroad, when the late king had forces in France, and has as good a character as any young man can have; and the king said, he should be one of the first he would provide for. I say not this to lessen the king's good intentions towards my lord Brittas, who wants his majesty's support extremely, and has been perfectly ruined by Oates's plot: but I think the king designed him for horse. It is my duty to lay before his majesty those persons for whom I think he intends soonest to provide, and to acquaint him as well as I can with their merits and qualifications; which I shall always do with impartiality, and with perfect submission, my only design being to serve the king to his own satisfaction, which I will

HENRY EARL OF CLARENDON. 3

will always make my busines. Here is one colonel Lacy, an old cavalier, who hopes the king will, when he has an opportunity, put him into employment; I am sure he deserves it: he was an officer in the time of king Charles the first, and, I believe, his majesty remembers him with himself in France and Flanders, where he served very bravely. This poor gentleman was settled here in a comfortable way, when in Oates's reign he was sent into England, and kept prisoner in the gatehouse about two years, besides other severities both to his person and small estate. I take the liberty to recommend his enclosed petition to your lordship. I am beginning to enter upon my busines, and am taking an account of the state of the army, and where the several troops are quartered at the present, which shall be very speedily transmitted to your lordship, that so his majesty may have a view where his army here is disposed of; and, I believe, there will be no great change made in the quarters the remaining part of the winter. I have no more to trouble your lordship with at present, but to assure you that I am with very great respect,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's most faithful humble servant,
CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the KING.

May it please Your Majesty, Jan. 12. 1685.

I ARRIVED here on Saturday last, and am applying myself with all possible diligence to be informed throughly of all things relating to your service, and will

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not rest till I have laid the true state of every particular before your majesty. I have acquainted my lord president with the death of captain Carty in my lord Granard's regiment, and have presumed to put your majesty in mind of some of those in the list, whom, you were pleased to say, you intended to provide for in the first place; it being my duty, as I conceive, to lay those in your view, who you think deserve best of you. I have sent my lord president a petition from colonel Lacy, whose long services to the crown in the time of the king your father, and constant attendance upon your majesty both in France and Flanders, I am sure, will not be forgotten. I presume it is not unknown to your majesty how much he suffered in the time of Oates's villany, and how he was then kept prisoner in England at least two years; which has much impoverished him, for he was never rich. I beg your majesty's pardon for saying thus much in a particular man's case, which I will never do, but when the person's eminent loyalty and services will justify me. I have nothing further to trouble your majesty with at present; but to assure your majesty, that I will make it the business of my life to serve your majesty according to the methods you have directed me; particularly in this great station, where you have been pleased to set me. God almighty preserve your majesty, and make this a happy year to you, and grant that you may enjoy many, many more; which is the daily prayer of,

May it please Your Majesty,
Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,
CLARENDON.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, Jan. 12. 1685. Tuesday.

MY last gave you an account of my being landed. I am now falling to my work; and in order to that yesterday in the afternoon the commissioners of the revenue were with me; and I have appointed Mondays in the afternoon for that business, that being the most convenient day for them in regard of their attendance at the custom-house. I have directed them to make all' possible haste in perfecting the last year's account, which ended the 24th of december last. They have promised it shall be done within six weeks, and they say it cannot be sooner, in regard, that it will be near a month before they can have the accounts from the several collectors in the country. You may be sure they shall not want being called upon: the commissioners tell me they send you every month an abstract of all the receipts and payments, by which you see the state of the cash. I have directed them to bring me the like every week, which I will transmit to you. You had long since an account of the last midsummer quarter, compared with the same quarter 1684. Of these branches, viz. customs, fines, inland excise, ale-licences, wine-licences, I have called to the commissioners for the like account of michaelmas quarter, compared with that of the former year; which is less by 6467l. 13s. 11d. than michaelmas quarter 1684. It shall be sent to you as soon as it is transcribed: but notwithstanding the decrease of that quarter, yet I am assured, the produce of the whole year will be more than that.

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that of 1684. of which you shall quickly have a view. I will shortly say something to you of the quitrents: the receiver general puts into his certificate of the state of the cash, what he has received of those rents since the preceding certificate; but the commissioners do not mention those rents in the abstracts they make up quarterly; neither do they take any notice in those quarterly abstracts of the hearth-money; but I say, I will enlarge more upon this ere long. I only mention it now, that you may see we have discoursed of every branch of the revenue at the first meeting. Though the revenue be in management, yet the commissioners farm out the hearth-money all the kingdom over, except only the city of Dublin, which they have put into collection these last six months. They say, that revenue would not come to so much by collection, as by farm, which seems very strange; for certainly the farmers and sub-farmers would not loose by their bargains, as they must do, if they did not receive more than will pay their rent; but with this particular I will likewise in a very little time entertain you more largely. I send you here enclosed a copy of what I have written to my lord Sunderland, and I do beg you to concern yourself, that the commission for the vacant company may be sent to me, which the king was pleased to declare should be the rule; and if it be kept at first, men will not be so eager to run into England for preferment, but will expect with patience the king's pleasure from his chief governour, which will certainly be as much for his majesty's service. My lord Granard, with whom I have had as much discourse already as the time will permit, tells me the soldiers cannot bear the deduction of 2d. per diem

HENRY EARL OF CLARENDRON.

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diem for their cloathing; that by means of other deductions to the hospital &c. the poor soldiers will not have above 2d. $\frac{1}{4}$ a day to live on; and that a penny a day will cloath them twice in three years; which he thinks will be sufficient. He has desired me to hear him, and some other of the officers upon this point; which I have promised him to do tomorrow; and do resolve to allot one day in a week certain for the affairs of the army: I only tell you this now, that you may take notice of it or not as you think fit: by the next probably I may have something ready to lay before the king, if the officers think fit; for it shall be theirs: whatever it be, you shall have a copy of it. This morning Mr. Nugent, a lawyer and of the king's council, brother to the earl of Westmeath, came to me: he had been recommended to me before by the king. After many professions of duty to the king and of respect to myself, he told me many of the old proprietors amongst the roman catholicks had a design of making their applications to the king to lay their case and condition before him, and to shew, how there were several lands vested in the king by law, whereby he might relieve them in a great measure without shaking the acts of settlement: that in order to this, they had sent letters into the several counties, and had had several meetings amongst themselves, whereby to make collections for the support of such agents as they should think fit to send to the king. He told me this, he said, that I might not be surprised if I heard of any of those meetings, now he had told me what they were for. I have reason to believe this matter is set on foot by lord Tyrconnel, and therefore I was cautious and only gave him the hearing,

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hearing, without saying any thing. I do beg your advice herein, whether you will take notice of this, or whether I should write about it to my lord president. I believe in other cases it would not be allowed by the king, that any party of men should assemble together, and take upon them to send agents as if they were a particular body ; and certainly, if the particulars were brought to me by Mr. Nugent, or any other, I could transmit them to the king, and his majesty might grant them to such of the proprietors as he thought fit, without the clamour which such an application (as it seems to be designed) would bring ; and without the parties, who desire relief, being put to the expense of maintaining agents in England. If the king be of that mind, the least intimation from his majesty would put an end to the matter, which is now carrying on : I shall expect the answer to this before I mention it to any one else. I must needs say, I think the king exceedingly well served in his revenue : the commissioners are both understanding and wonderfully diligent ; and I doubt not, but in a very little time you shall see every tittle of the revenue very clear. I never knew a man better spoken of by all people than the receiver general Mr. Price : I am sure he appears very useful and knowing. God keep you and yours. I shall be able to inform you of more by the next : remember, I have yet been here but three days.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Jan. 16. 1685.

WE have had no letters from England since those of the 5th: which is the more wondered at, because the wind has been very good most part of this week; though indeed very tempestuous. Upon the desire of several officers of the army, I thought fit to hold a council of war this morning with all the field-officers in town, thinking that likewise the best way to come to the knowledge of the true state of the army. Several things were proposed by the officers, which, as soon as they are digested, your lordship shall have an account of. The things which they agreed upon, and which I thought most necessary to be laid before his majesty at present, are contained in the enclosed paper; which I offer with all submission, his majesty knowing best what is fit for his service. Most of the officers make great complaints of the defects in their arms, and do alledge that many of them may be bought here for half what they cost out of England, and better, of which I will very quickly lay some proposals before your lordship; and I intend to write upon this matter to my lord Dartmouth.

As to the 4th head in the paper, concerning the allowance of powder, the officers say they were lately reduced to this of a barrel a year for each troop, and company; which they say is too little, in regard of their frequent exercising, and it being necessary to accustom the men as well as the horse to fire. The quantity they propose is a barrel and half a year: but I do not think fit to

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make any additional allowance of expense to his majesty without an apparent present necessity, till I have received his majesty's pleasure therein. I have pricked the sheriffs for the next year upon the best advice I could get in the shortness of the time, and I could not defer it longer by reason of the nearness of the term; and truly I flatter myself that the choice is generally good. I have nothing further to trouble your lordship with at present, but that I am perfectly,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's most faithful humble servant,
CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, January 16. 168⁵.

I HAVE since my last received yours of the 5th concerning the taking Mr. Price's securities, which I have put into a way to be perfected; and you will speedily have an account of it from me in form, as you writ: for that is the method I think best to observe, to return answers in form to those letters, which I receive in form from you. I have been informing myself concerning my allowance, (which it is almost time for me to think of) and how chief governors were paid: you will see by the enclosed certificates, that the duke of Ormond (the first time he was lord lieutenant) was paid from the 4th of November 1661. and the clerk of the council certifies, that he was not sworn till the 28th 1662 of July: the 4th of November 1661 was the date of his commission. You will

HENRY EARL OF CLARENDON.

will find it more fully expressed in Mr. Yarner's certificate, the muster-master upon his grace's last commission : and by Mr. Price's certificate it appears, that, though the late lords justices did not enter upon the government till the 20th of march last, yet they were paid from the 25th of december preceding. It appears, that these payments were made by warrants from the lords lieutenants themselves, without any letters from the king, except only to the late lords justices ; and their warrants were grounded upon a letter from his majesty. For the method of my being paid, whether by my own warrants or by the king's letter, I leave it to be, as you shall judge best ; though the commissioners of the revenue, and Mr. Price, and the barons of the exchequer do all tell me, I may pay myself without any further authority : but it is most safe, I am sure, to have orders from the head ; at least for me to lay it thus before you, and to do as I shall be directed. I humbly hope, his majesty will allow me to be paid from the time of my commission ; which is dated the first of october last : it may be said for me, that I left London the 16th of december, which was much sooner than any lord lieutenant before me ; and that my journey was more chargeable to me than to others, by going at the winter season, (which no other did) and by being kept longer on the way by the ill weather : it may likewise be alledged, that, by reason of my private condition before, my equipage cost me much more than the king's bounty, of which I do intend ere long to give you a particular account. Having thus laid this matter before you, if you think it best so to do, I am ready to lay this matter before you in a letter of form ; or as much of it, as you

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think fit. I likewise herewith send you an account of what has been made of the wool-licences, since is has been in the management of the commissioners of the revenue to the 9th of this month ; by which you will see, how much hath been received since the date of my commission : I know not, whether it would be too immodest to beg the whole towards my charges. I would not willingly displease the king in any thing, and particularly by being thought greedy of gain to myself ; and therefore I do perfectly leave the whole matter to you, to do as if it were your own case. On wednesday I pricked the sheriffs ; and, I hope, have done it to the satisfaction of all good men, of all parties : I am sure, I took the best I could, and which the time would permit ; for the time was so short, that I could not delay it a week longer, in regard of the term being so near. The next year, if it please the king to continue me so long, I shall be able to know men myself. I know, you will be concerned, when I tell you the condition of my family here. When I was at Chester, I embarked all my coach-horses, and most of my saddle-horses, servants and goods in two ships there : they both set sail from Chester on sunday last (the winds were so bad they could not stir before) in company with another vessel, called the Providence ; but the storm on sunday in the afternoon scattered them : the vessel, in which were my saddle-horses and plate, was driven into the skerries, twelve miles from hence, and I got my things, and horses, and three servants here yesterday ; but the other vessel, in which are several of my servants, and my two sets of coach-horses, is not yet heard of : the Providence is cast away upon the coast of Carlingford, and but one

one man of all the company faved : in her were colonel Dempsey's horses, and servants and all his goods ; which I doubt will almost undo the poor man. The Elizabeth of Dublin, which I freighted with my goods at London, and which failed into the Downs about the 16th of no-vember, is not yet heard of. If these two ships should be lost, I shall be more than half undone : but God's will be done. I held a council of war this morning with the field-officers, who are in town ; of which I have given my lord Sunderland an account, as you will find by the copy of my letter to him, and the paper of the proposals, which they made to me, to be laid before his majesty ; a copy whereof I likewise send you. Some other things were discoursed of, which you shall have an account of, as soon as they are digested. I intend to write at large upon these matters to lord Dartmouth ; which I suppose he will take well, many of them relating to his office. You shall shortly have a proposal concerning the price of arms here ; many of which will come for half what they cost from England : and those, who understand them, say the arms will be much better than those, which come from England from the king's stores. The storms last night were terrible, whoever was at sea. God almighty keep you and all yours. We have had no letters from England, since those of the 5th ; so that you are not to wonder, if you have not answers to what you have written sinee that time.

I here send you the abstract of the revenue for the quarter ending 29th september 1685.

By the tuesday's post I shall write more largely concerning the revenue.

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To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, Jan. 19. 1685.

ON Sunday I had several accounts brought me of great insolencies committed by the tories in the county of Cork, and of great robberies in that county and Limerick; that many people were set upon in the day-time, and dangerously wounded: I immediately sent orders to captain Boyle and captain Carne, who are quartered in those parts, to send out parties to suppress such disorders, and have given them all necessary powers: I have likewise written to colonel Macarty, who is quartered at Cork, to furnish those captains with such numbers of foot as they shall desire; so that I doubt not, but, in a short time, to give a good account of those fellows, and put that country in perfect quiet. I have sent to the gentlemen who made the complaints, to let them know their failure, in not sending up informations upon oath, against the persons of whom they complain, to the end, that they may be proclaimed; for, till they are proclaimed, none of the officers are willing to look after them: and upon very good reason; for captain Aunger, who did very good service in apprehending of Power the tory, has been threatened to be indicted for shooting him; which could not be avoided, had not the government interposed in his behalf. When they are proclaimed, some or other of their party quickly, upon hopes of gain, discovers the ring-leaders; so that, if people do their duties, (which I am sure I will look to) they will very easily be suppressed. One of those informations seeming to impute much of the unruliness

unruliness of the tories to the English being disarmed ; I thought fit to take that occasion to acquaint the lords of the council here with the power the king gives me, by his letter of the 30th of November last, to dispense with the execution of the 29th article of my instructions in such particular cases, as I shall think fit, and where it may be for his majesty's service. It is a thing of great consequence, what persons should be intrusted with arms ; and ought to be very well considered, before any are delivered out : and since it cannot be imagined, that I can as yet have any personal knowledge of what persons are fit to be so trusted, I did yesterday appoint a committee of the board to consider of it ; and when I have their report and their opinions, what persons are fit to be trusted with arms, I will transmit it to your lordship, and not dispose of any, till I have your lordship's answer.

I am very much desired by captain Robert Forbus, my lord Granard's son, and now a captain in the king's regiment of guards here, to move the king, that he may have leave to sell his company, and to purchase the lieutenant colonel's place in his father's regiment, now enjoyed by lieutenant colonel Salkeld ; who is aged, and willing to retire and live in Yorkshire, his own country, as I am informed. I know very well, his majesty does not design to have commands in the army sold, as they have been ; which, I doubt, has much prejudiced the army ; but whether the king may not think fit to gratify this gentleman, both upon his own account, as well as for his father's constant loyalty, I know not : my part is only to make the request from the young gentleman concerned ; which I do by your lordship's hand, and so humbly leave

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it to his majesty's judgment. Captain Forbus will quickly wait on your lordship himself, his design being to beg the king's leave to go into Hungary. I am most faithfully,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord T R A S U R E R.

Dublin Castle, January 19. 1685. Tuesday.

NO letters yet from England. My ship from London arrived well here on sunday in the evening : and the same night I had an account, that the other ship from Chester was, this day sennight, driven into Strangford ; so that, I thank God, all my servants and horses are safe : most of the first are come to town, and the latter will be here on thursday. You will see, by what I have written to my lord Sunderland, what I have done with reference to the tories : and I do not doubt, but in a very little time to free the country from that sort of cattle ; for I begin to have pretty good intelligence concerning them. You will see by that letter, how I mentioned to the council-board the putting of arms into the hands of some of the English again ; which begat a very warm debate ; ver-ry many of the board saying, that the English could not but think themselves in great danger, when they were left exposed without any one weapon in their houses, and the Irish were all armed ; and, when they called to any of those Irish for help to pursue the tories, they shut up their doors

doors and would not stir. It was said by the late lords justices, that the orders they gave were only to take in the arms of the militia, and those only fire-arms and no other: it was replied, many other gentlemen, who were not of the militia, and had a case of pistols or a gun purely for their own defence, were disarmed, which was owned by my lord Granard; who said, it was true, but he knew not, by what officiousness it was done, and he could not help it: but that which made the heat, was sir Thomas Newcomen; who said, the English had no cause to complain; that they wanted no arms; and, he hoped, those, who were disarmed, should not now have arms put into their hands again; that he did not believe they were half disarmed, for he could say upon his own knowledge, that there were above fifty thousand arms in the province of Ulster, and there were not brought in from thence above six hundred: so ill were the king's commands executed in that province. Upon which up stood lord Granard, and lord Mountjoy, one after another, and said, if the king had been ill served, it was by himself; for that they (those two lords) went into Ulster, and carried him with them; that they were as strict as was possible in taking up all the arms throughout the whole province; that he (sir Thomas) acted and went every where with them; and was very much to blame for not speaking of it then, if he thought any thing amiss. I interposed and silenced them both; and acquainted them, that my intent in bringing the matter thither was for their advice, who amongst them knew most of the considerable people in the several counties, who were fit to be trusted with such quantities of arms, and in such places only, as would secure the country

try from the insults of tories and robbers ; and therefore I would refer it to a committee of the board to consider of it, and to report to me what they thought fit to be done for the publick service. I will have the vanity to say to you between ourselves, you would not have been displeased, if you had seen my whole part in this matter ; and, I hope, the king will not be dissatisfied when he sees the caution I intend to observe. As soon as I have the report from the council, I will transmit it to my lord Sunderland, and will expect the king's directions before I give out any arms. Sir Thomas Newcomen has desired my leave to go for England ; and he will embark within a day or two : you know his dependance, and upon that account I did not think fit to refuse him. He hopes to get his commission of major general under the great seal renewed, which, he says, he first obtained by the favour of this king, when duke. If he does not gain his desire, I shall not be sorry, nor will any body else here ; for I never knew a man more hated : he pursues his brother-in-law's designs ; and yet even that party do not esteem him, nor know how to believe him : he is reputed a brave man in his person, but false and treacherous to the highest degree : he is very hot and troublesome at the council-board, and in all places, where he makes one. After all this, I assure you, I am very civil to him ; and he never fails being twice a day with me. I have promised to recommend him to you ; and, if he calls upon me, I will give him a line to you. You know best, how far you will concern yourself in captain Forbus's affair : I really think by my small acquaintance, that the young man deserves very well : his father owns great obligations to you ; and you know,

know, I have been very long acquainted with him in times of difficulty, and I should be pleased if he were gratified; and the rather, that he might see the king is not dissatisfied with him, which he much apprehends he is, upon the score of Argyle. I find he has trusted lord T— with that whole secret; and now, he believes, that lord will not be just to him. I do really believe he is a very worthy man. I am sure, he does the king very good service in his station here. I here send you Mr. Price's weekly abstract, by which you may see the cash in his hands; but I do not yet see clearly, what cash is in the hands of the several collectors: but, I think, I shall quickly come to the knowledge of that too. I tell the commissioners, there need be no cash in the hands of the collectors of Dublin; but that they should pay the revenue to Mr. Price, as fast as they receive it. One or two meetings more with the commissioners will enable me to say more to you of several particulars of the revenue, which I am not yet so much master of. It is said, most of the saddles and holsters for lord Tyrconnel's regiment were cast away in the Providence of Chester: if it should be true, it will go hard with the poor soldiers; for they have paid for them. God almighty keep you and yours.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Jan. 23. 168 $\frac{5}{6}$.

I AM now to return your lordship my humble thanks for both your favours of the 12th instant, which came to me the last night, with four other packets from Eng-

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land. I have ordered the printing the offices, your lordship sent me, for the 30th of january and 6th of february, that the days may be kept with that solemnity that is due. I shall give order for the discharge of John Cade and Robert Conybeer at Cork, as your lordship directs.

As soon as sir Albert Cunningham brings me the king's reference upon his petition, I will make a report upon it. And as to the informing myself of the state of the office of the ordnance here, and of the officers belonging thereunto, I am already upon it; and shall very speedily transmit an account thereof to your lordship. I heard lately from colonel Macarty, and expect him here the next week: your lordship may be sure, he shall have licence to go into England, when he desires it; as I shall most punctually perform all the commands I receive from you. Upon this occasion I beg your lordship to let me have the king's direction as to the giving licence to the officers of the army to go into England: sir Thomas Newcomen and colonel Russell are gone over with licence this week, at their earnest desires, not having kissed his majesty's hand since his coming to the Crown. Sir Will. Tichburne is gone upon the same errand (who is a very worthy man; and every one of his family have been eminent in the service of the crown at all times); and several other captains have desired leave to go, pretending very urgent occasions. I shall not deny any gentleman a licence, if his affairs do really require it; and that, I think, it will be prejudicial to him not to go: but if I do deny it to some, whose affairs, I think, are not so pressing, and who have not been long upon their commands; I hope, I shall therein have your lordship's support

HENRY EARL OF CLARENDON. 21

port with the king: for, I think, it is his majesty's pleasure, that his officers should spend most of their time in their stations. I have nothing further to trouble your lordship with at present, but to beg the continuance of your favour to,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant
CLARENDO^N. C. P. S.

To the Lord T R E A S U R E R.

Dublin Castle, January 23. 168⁵.

LAST night captain Coote arrived here, and brought me yours of the first instant: and at the same time came in five packets from England; amongst which I had yours of the 7th and 16th. To answer them in order, I have little to say upon the first; but thank you for your kindness to captain Coote, because it was upon my score. I assure you, he acknowledgeth your favours with all possible gratitude, not to me alone, but in his more publick discourses. I know very little personally of the gentleman: but I cannot forget how his father, the first earl of Montrath, had made his address to the late king and engaged in his service two years before the restoration; and how that he would never receive any orders from general Monk, nor have any thing to do with him, till he had the king's commands how to steer himself. Upon this account, methinks, the son of such a father should find some favour, at least, not severity; if some particular

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particular demerit be not more than suggested against him. As I was surprised to find Mr. Hampden plead guilty, which I take to be much for the king's advantage; so his majesty's extending mercy to him will contribute no less to his service, in my poor opinion. Yours of the 7th being wholly upon my son's great affair, I need say nothing to it in this place. As to yours of the 16th, I received one of the same date from my lord president and Mr. Bridgeman, with the offices for the 30th of january and 6th of february; which I have ordered to be printed and sent into the country, as is usual in those cases.

I wonder lord Tyrconnel should take so much pains to have some people believe, he would have put in at Holy-head, if he could; when every body here knows, the wind was so fair, that he might more easily have done it than have gone to Chester. But captain Sheldon, who went over with him, hearing him speak so much in publick, the morning he left this place, of stopping at Holy-head to see my lord lieutenant; asked him, my lord, why do you say this; when we all, who go with you, know, that you do not intend it? His answer was; prethee let me alone: I know what I say. When several persons here, Irish, asked his lordship of me and concerning me, &c. his answer was, that he knew nothing of me more than by sight; that he had no manner of acquaintance with me. This some of themselves here have told me, when they have heard me speak of him in discourse, as one I was acquainted with: one cannot help smiling at this. His lordship may make what complaints he pleafeth; but if they may be put into writing, and sent over hither, I doubt not, but his majesty shall have as perfect and

and as clear an information of every thing, and as satisfactory, as if he were here to examine it himself. When lord Tyrconnel was here, and did complain sometimes to one, sometimes to others of the men in authority, (from whom he always met with the same respect, as if he had been their chief governour) and the things complained of were examined in his own presence, and all done that he himself could desire ; yet he would go away dissatisfied, because there was not so much ground of complaint, as he wished. How is it possible to understand such a man ? As for the faults he finds with the administration of the revenue, nothing can go well in that affair, till one Mr. Hacket be receiver general, and all the commissioners of his putting in. But all this is only between you and me : for, I assure you, I speak not of him to any one here, but with that respect which is due to his quality, and to one I have lived well with ; though I cannot help hearing others speak slightly of him, which I discountenance all I can : some few more of the extravagancies, he has committed between Chester and London in his last journey, will do his busines. Captain Carne is not dead ; for I had a letter from him some days since : and you may be sure, whatever reports come thither of the death of men, who are here, you shall have an account from me, if it be certain : and, if his majesty please not to be engaged till he has an account from me, it will give him much ease ; for he may still do what he has a mind to. You see by my first letter to my lord president the method I take in recommending ; which shall always be observed, till all the list the king gave me is provided for : if you would have me do otherwise than I do in this, or any thing

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thing else, pray let me know it. We have had a very particular account of lord Delamer's trial ; and I am very glad he is acquitted : the account, which some letters bring, that the king has ordered Saxton to be indicted of perjury, is much to his majesty's advantage. I say nothing to my son's affair ; if I may judge by Mr. Longuevill's letter, which is likewise of the 16th, the proposals of the six shares will not do ; and then I know not what to say : but, you tell me, sir William Whitmore was to be in town : I hope that will make an end of it one way or other.

If his majesty does at any time give a command in the army here to any one that is in England, I could still wish, (and it was so resolved) that the commission might be sent to me : it would give me credit, and would let people see, the running into England would not procure their preferments sooner than their applying to the chief governour here. If you think it fit, pray, appear in this matter to my lord president.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Jan. 24. 168⁶.

SOME time before I arrived here, one Mr. Robert Clarke, a merchant living at Kingsale, writ a letter to major Lawless, who is quartered there, pretending to make great discoveries : I send your lordship a copy of the said letter here enclosed. The then lords justices gave major Lawless directions to have Clarke examined ; but he would confess nothing, and seemed to go from what he

he had written in his letter ; and positively refused to be sworn. Whereupon major Lawless committed him to prison, together with the others whom Clarke mentions, all except Jenkins the preacher ; who could not be found. This Clarke is said by some in the country to be mad : but major Lawless and sir John Mead, who examined him, having written to me, that they thought him more knave than mad ; I have thought fit to send for him hither, and do expect him here within two days, when I will examine him myself ; and then the whole matter shall be laid before your lordship. I send your lordship here enclosed likewise the copy of an information given me by my lord Mount Alexander ; of which his lordship will give you a further account himself, he being to go for England within a few days. I have advised upon it with my lord chief justice Keyting, that no time might be lost in the prosecution : but he is of opinion, that nothing should be done upon it for the present ; the words having been spoken long since, before his majesty came to the crown, and there being but one witness. This sir Robert Colvill is looked upon as a very great favourer of the fanatics, though he goes to church himself : he is a man of a very great estate in the north. My lord chief justice Keyting is both an able man and perfectly loyal ; and therefore I could not advise with any one more proper in any thing that concerns the king. I thought fit to send the examination to your lordship, that, when you have considered it, you may give me orders therein ; which shall be carefully obeyed. I am certainly informed, that lieutenant colonel Butlers, cornet in colonel Hamilton's regiment, was cast away in the Providence of Chester,

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which was lost upon this coast about a fortnight since. I do make it my humble request to your lordship, that you will be pleased to move the king to bestow the employment upon Mr. Richard Flemming, who is a very worthy young man, and will deserve his majesty's countenance: besides the favour it will be to me, your lordship will oblige a very good man in England, sir Richard Bellings; to whom this young gentleman is nephew. But if any of the persons in the list, which your lordship gave me, are designed by his majesty for such employments as cornet; then there is an end of my request, and I beg your lordship not to make it: for I would not go about to ask any thing for a friend of mine, when I know before hand his majesty has other engagements; and I will defer it till a more seasonable opportunity. I beg your lordship's pardon for this trouble, and am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your &c.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, January 29. 1685.

IN my 2d letter of the 12th instant, I told you of Mr. Nugent's having been with me: I have since had a very particular account from one of their party, and who is at all their meetings, of what passes amongst them. He tells me, before my arrival, that those, who manage affairs here, have written, as it were, circular letters to their friends in the several counties: a copy of which I send you enclosed; whereby you will see the excellent grounds

grounds they go upon. They have likewise nominated agents for the roman catholicks of the several counties, some to be sent into England, and some to reside in this city : these are to be supported by a common collection. A list of them, as far as nominated, I here send you. My intelligencer tells me, that they have not yet been able to procure subscriptions in any one county, those people being very much divided among themselves ; not being only secured by the acts of settlement in their old estates, but likewise in great new acquisitions ; and, he says, he is very confident, that some of the persons, mentioned in the letter to be the approvers of the agents, as the earl of Clanrickard in particular, will have nothing to do in the matter. He tells me, that on monday the 11th instant there was a great meeting here at Mr. Nugent's house ; where it was said by some, that they did not know, how safe it was for them to meet, and hold correspondencies to such ends and purposes, without the knowledge of the chief governour ; and that thereupon Mr. Nugent was sent to me to acquaint me with what they did : and that, upon his return to them, not being able to give them any encouragement from me, they dispersed for that time. And I am assured, the project is at a stand for the present ; perhaps, till they have new instructions from lord Tyrconnel after the informations they have sent from hence. But the meetings continue at Mr. Nugent's ; where it was said, that I was so very civil to those roman catholicks, who had been with me, that it was propos'd to acquaint me with some particular grievances concerning particular persons ; and so see, whether I would represent them to the king ; and to expect what return would be

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made to me from his majesty. Though they came to no positive resolution at the meeting, yet I am assured, that they will go this way to work. If they do, I shall receive them, and transmit them to the king with such animadversions as shall be fit for the case : and, methinks, such applications upon particular cases from particular persons should please the king better than addresses in the name of a body of people, who can have no head to authorise their commiffion. I am assured, I shall have an account of all that is doing ; which I will inform you of with all speed.

I am preparing a large dispatch to you of the affairs of the revenue, which, I hope, will be ready to be sent to you sometime the next week : you must not think me backward, when you consider, I have been here but three weeks tomorrow. I can assure you, I have not been idle ; as you will see by the time I tell you : and as, I hope, you do already see by what I have written to you. God keep you and yours &c.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, February 5. 168 $\frac{5}{6}$.

ON wednesday last my lord Mount Alexander went for England : he is better known to you, than to me ; and therefore I need say nothing to you of him, that is, not in his behalf. By the small acquaintance I have with him I take him to be a man of honour, and great worth, and perfectly devoted to the king's service. I have had much of his company since my being here ; and

and I have endeavoured to be as civil to him as I could. I could not refuse him leave to go for England for his private occasions ; and he has promised me to return in the spring. He gave me sometime since an information of one Maxwell against sir Robert Colvill ; which when I had read, though there appeared to me to be no great matter in it, I thought fit to advise with my lord chief justice Keyting upon it : who is of opinion that, considering the words were spoken of the king, when duke, and several years since, and that there was but one witness, it would be best not to make any prosecution against the person. My lord Mount Alexander tells me, there has been some little difference between sir Robert Colvill and himself ; and therefore he was very cautious in appearing against him : but believing, it would come out some other way, and then that it might not be thought well in him to have concealed such an information, he thought best to lodge it in the chief governour's hands. And, you may believe, I had no great mind to be thought the smotherer of any words which might be interpreted to be against the king ; and therefore, when I had my lord chief justice Keyting's opinion, which I have told you, I sent a copy of the information to my lord Sunderland in a letter of the 24th past ; which letter (because I had not time then to have copied) I now send you. This sir Robert Colvill is a man of at least 3000l. per annum in the north of this kingdom, and was for several years of the privy council, till the change upon his majesty's coming to the crown. This last summer he was treating a match for his son with a daughter of sir Thomas Newcomen, niece of lord Tyrconnel : had that gone on, he would have been
a man.

a man of merit; but now that is off, he will be represented as a very dangerous man by that lord: which was one reason, which made my lord Mount Alexander resolve to give me the information against him. There are now propositions on foot for a match between sir Robert's son, and my lady Ellen Macarty: the portion is, for the father to be a viscount; which my lady Clancarty thinks she has credit enough with her friends in England to procure. I can say nothing of the gentleman, but as I am told by the different parties here; and why I did not consult Mr. solicitor concerning him, with whom I do and shall advise in most things, lord Mount Alexander will tell you. When the king has all before him, he is the best judge, whether he will have him prosecuted, or whether he will dignify him with any title: I shall be ready to obey in either case. As it was the practice, in time of the popish plot, for men to threaten others, whom they could not get their ends of, that they would bring them into the plot; so now, in the like manner, men are threatened to be accused of speaking words against the king when he was duke: but these things are to be borne with, though they are very troublesome. Several informations of such kind of stuff are sent up to me from most parts of the kingdom. I do not think fit to reject any of them; but receive them all and put them into the hands of Mr. attorney and solicitor general, who have bundles of them already: and they shall be proceeded in as they advise; though multitudes of people are thereby harassed to very little purpose. I doubt not but accounts are sent into England of several of these informations and accusations, which are sent to me; and I am resolved, they shall have

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no just cause to complain, that they stick in my hands : and, as fast as any thing material ariseth from any of them, I give my lord president an account ; to whom, you see, I write pretty often. Last night colonel Macarthy came to town : he makes great acknowledgments of obligations to you, and wonderful professions of friendship to me : he says, I may believe what he says to me, for he never made any professions to the late lords justices, because he did not wish they should continue in the government ; but he vows, he is better pleased at my coming and being here, and had rather I should continue, than any other man in England. I had a correspondence with him by letter before he came to town, which he seems pleased at : and I am sure, neither he nor any body shall have any occasion to complain of my manner of living with them. He put one great compliment upon me, speaking of my having no regiment ; he desired, that his regiment might be called mine, and that he might be (as he called it) my colonel lieutenant : you will believe, I knew how to receive such a profound compliment. I have given him leave to go for England the next week, being directed so to do (when he should ask it) by my lord president. He told me, that I might see, he would always discourse freely and without reserve to me, he would tell me the true reason of his going for England. Besides that he had been a good while from thence, he did believe, there would be some alterations in the army here, and some other general officers appointed than now are ; that he knew, sir Thomas Newcomen was gone into England, with hopes, by means of his powerful friends, to be reestablished in his office of major general ; which

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the king had promised he (colonel Macarty) should be, if he made any ; and that he did not doubt of the friendship of the lord treasurer, and lord presidint in his pretensions ; though he knew, the other had a great friend, without naming any body : but without witchcraft one might guess who he meant. The truth is ; if the king thinks fit to make such an officer, as major general, (of which I do not pretend to be a judge) I am sure, any body would be much more grateful than sir Thomas : and therefore, of the two, I could rather wish it should be this colonel. But, I hope, his majesty will first consider the condition of his revenue (of which you shall have a clear state laid before you within very few days) before he loads it with any new burdens : and I believe, none of these gentlemen will care for the titles of offices, without good salaries with them. That you may see what the natives are aiming at, I send you a copy of a petition, which, I am told, will be brought to me to send to the king. I wish I could have your advice, how to behave myself in such cases. I doubt not, but, whatever petitions are given me by that party, will be sent likewise into England : and therefore, if this petition be brought to me, I do resolve to send it to the king in a letter from me to himself, only representing to him in general the importance it will be of to all his affairs in this kingdom, and particularly to his revenue, to have that matter of reversing the out-lawries well considered ; and that, in my opinion, the particular cases ought to be taken into consideration, rather than to come to a determination in the general ; which will be of a vast consequence. And this letter to the king I intend to send open to you, that you
may

may read it ; and if you do approve it, you will deliver it : otherwise, send me your thoughts, what you think fitter for me to do. One thing more I must mention, before I send this letter. A few days since my lord primate made me a visit, as he frequently does : he told me, how almost absolutely necessary it is, that there should be a vice-treasurer here. The state of that matter, with reference to the law, you know ; and therefore I need not mention it to you : he proposed to me, that Mr. Keightley might have that place, just in the same manner only, as sir John Temple formerly had upon a like occasion, and with the same salary. I suppose my lord primate thought to make his court herein to me, for which I made my acknowledgments to him. I think, you and I both would be glad to do Mr. Keightley some good ; and, if you think it proper, this office would give him an insight into the affairs of the revenue, and would entitle him to be a privy counsellor ; and would not be inconsistent with what you did design him, when there is an opportunity for it : but I leave this matter wholly to your judgment. I here return you the draught of the king's letter, which you sent me, on behalf of the clergy for inappropriate rectories forfeited ; which I have perused, and consulted with the primate, the arch-bishop of Dublin, and Mr. solicitor upon it ; who all think it very well, and sufficient to do what is intended : therefore, if you please, let it be dispatched. I think, I have now tired you. God almighty keep you and yours.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Feb. 5. 1685.

LAST night came in five packets from England, with which I received your lordship's favours of the 23d and 30th past; in the last of which you pleased to tell me, the king had given his regiment of guards here to my lord Offory, which gives as general a satisfaction here as can be imagined. Amongst the alterations, his majesty has thoughts of making in the army here, I could wish something were done for the earl of Clanrickard: he is a man of great quality; has not only constantly served the crown both at home and abroad himself; but at all times every one of his family shewed themselves signally loyal: and, I dare say, there is not an Englishman would not be glad to see him in command and to serve under him. I beg your lordship's pardon for recommending this nobleman to you, which I have no interest in but the king's service; and, I verily believe, his majesty will not be displeased with me for putting you in mind of him. About ten days since there came great complaints of fresh violences and robberies committed by the tories in Munster: they were headed by young Power, brother to the late rebel Power. But I have ordered several small parties of horse and foot, who are quartered thereabouts, to watch them; and have got some intelligence amongst themselves: so that I do not doubt in a very little to have all that country quiet. I have no more to trouble your lordship

lordship with at present, but to assure you that I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,
CLARENDON. C. P. S.

Colonel Macarty is now here : he came to town two days since, and will go for England the next week.

To the KING.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, Feb. 5. 1684.

I HAD last night the honour of your majesty's of the 24th past ; and do humbly beg your majesty's pardon for the omission of a date to my former letter. I am infinitely happy in your majesty's believing me diligent in informing myself of the true state of this kingdom. I am sure, I will make it my only busines, as long as I have the honour of being here ; and will, with all possible speed, lay before your majesty an account of every particular, as I can attain the knowledge of them, with all integrity imaginable. By the grace of God your majesty shall be informed of all that I know ; and your commands shall find a perfect and punctual obedience. I have presumed to move my lord president, to put your majesty in mind of my lord Clanrickard ; who has the honour to be known to your majesty : he has constantly served your father, and the king your brother, from the very beginning of his life ; and every one of his family

have at all times signally manifested their loyalty to the crown ; and this good lord is a little mortified, lest he should be out of your majesty's remembrance. I beg your majesty's pardon for saying thus much : I know, you will not be offended with me for putting you in mind of men of merit.

The other day I saw your majesty's regiment of guards drawn out ; and, though I am no soldier, yet I may assure your majesty, they exercise and perform all their duty as well, as your guards in England can do : if they had the honour to be in your presence, you would have no cause to be ashamed of them. Your majesty has now been a year upon your throne : that you may long continue to rule over these kingdoms, to the terror and confusion of all your adversaries, is the continual prayer of,

May it please Your Majesty,

Your Majesty's

most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,

CLARENDON.

To the KING.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, Feb. 8. 168 $\frac{1}{2}$.

THE best way, in my humble opinion, to serve your majesty is, to inform you faithfully and punctually of all I hear : for should your majesty be informed from other hands of any thing, which I know, and have no account from me, you might perhaps think me negligent in your service, or desirous to conceal things from you ; neither of which I would be willingly guilty of :

of: and therefore I shall rather venture to trouble your majesty with stories, which perhaps sometimes may not be true, than to have it in any man's power (if they should prove true) to say, that I might have given you an account sooner. Sir, quickly after my being here Mr. Nugent, of your majesty's learned council, made me a visit: he told me, he hoped, I would not be displeased, if I should hear of any meetings in the countries amongst the roman catholicks; for, he did assure me, they were only in order to the choosing of agents to go into England to solicit on the behalf of the ancient proprietors. I replied, I was very confident, the roman catholicks would have no meetings which could give any dissatisfaction to the government; but I did not understand, what he meant by sending over agents. I assured him, as every body should have very easy access to me, so, whatever complaints or hard cases were brought to me, I would not only transmit them to your majesty, but would also take pains to find out remedies for them. Mr. Nugent told me, he would give me a further account of this matter; but he has said nothing more to me of it, though he hath been with me twice or thrice since upon other occasions. Some other roman catholicks have owned to me, that there were such meetings for the ends I have mentioned; and that they did not like them, and had therefore refused to contribute any thing towards the support of such agents: which probably may have put a stop to the proceeding; for, I hear, it is at a stand for the present. I told those gentlemen, as I did Mr. Nugent, that whatever complaints were brought to me should be represented to your majesty, with as much advantage and assistance for

for relief, as I was capable of doing ; and, I was confident, your majesty would receive them from me very graciously ; and by this means they might save the charge of sending agents into England. Those I discoursed with, I am sure, are satisfied ; and, I am confident, will be able to satisfy others. Some days since two papers were given me : the one a circular letter to most counties in the kingdom advising the meeting to choose agents ; the other a list of names, pretended to be chosen agents for the several counties ; many of whom, I am told, know nothing of it. I have thought fit to send both those papers to your majesty, that you may have all before you which I know. I have not yet told any of the roman catholicks, (nor any others) that I have seen these papers ; (except only one or two who discourse very freely with me) because I would do nothing, in a matter of this nature, without your majesty's particular directions : though, I do easily imagine, your majesty would not be pleased to see such a number of persons come over to you, as are mentioned in the enclosed list ; which would make a great noise, and be a vast expense to the poor aggrieved people. Besides, possibly your majesty might think it just to hear those, against whom the complaints may be brought ; which would carry over as great a number. I might add, that the consequence would be the carrying a great deal of money, as well as numbers of people, out of this kingdom, and the unsettling the minds of men from the callings, they are now engaged in. I have now laid the whole of this matter before your majesty, as far as I know, with my humble thoughts thereon, with submission to your majesty's great wisdom. As, I am sure,

none

none of the persons concerned can be dissatisfied with what I have said to them ; so, I hope, your majesty will give me your pardon for what I have here presumed to offer, and that you will be pleased to let me have your commands for my future guide in this affair ; which, in this and all things else, shall find a perfect obedience from,

Sir,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,

CLARENDRON.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Feb. 8. 1685.

SOME days after my being here Mr. Nugent, of the king's learned council, desired me not to be displeased, if I heard of any meetings in the countries amongst the roman catholicks ; for, he did assure me, they were only in order to the choosing of agents to send into England to solicit on the behalf of the antient proprietors. I told him, I was very well satisfied, that the roman catholicks would have no meetings any where, which the government could have any cause to dislike ; but I did not understand what he meant by sending over agents : I assured him, whoever came to me to complain of any hardship he was under, by any manner of way, I would transmit his case to the king, and contribute all that was in my power towards their relief ; which, I was sure, his majesty would receive very graciously. Mr. Nugent seemed

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ed satisfied, and said, he would give me a further account of this matter: but, having said nothing to me since, though I have seen him twice or thrice upon other occasions; and having been told by some roman catholicks, that the meetings did continue, which they did not approve, and had refused to contribute any thing towards the support of such agents; I have thought fit to give the king an account of the whole matter, as far as I know. I have likewise sent his majesty the copy of a circular letter, which has been sent to most counties for the chooising of agents; together with a list of names pretended to be chosen for the several counties, with blanks for such counties, as are said not yet to have chosen. I have not yet acquainted any of the roman catholicks, except some very few, who discourse freely with me, that I have seen these papers; because I would do nothing in a thing of this nature without particular directions: though, I think, the matter has been carried further than it ought to have been without the knowledge of the government. But I am told the matter is at a stand for the present; several considerable persons having refused their contributions for the support of the agents. I believe, those I have discoursed with are satisfied, that I will transmit their complaints faithfully to the king: which, I assure your lordship, I shall do in their own words, and shall take all the pains I am capable of to offer to your lordship remedies for their relief; of which his majesty will then be judge, and my part will be to obey whatever directions I receive. If I may presume to offer my opinion upon this affair at present, I should think, the king would not be pleased to see such a number of persons as are mentioned in the list
come

come into England upon that errand ; to which there may be many objections offered : and, to say no more, it would make a great noise, and be a vast expense to the poor people, who are already aggrieved. And probably his majesty would think himself obliged in justice to hear the people complained of ; which perhaps might carry over as great a number of persons, and would certainly occasion the transmitting great sums of money from this kingdom, which cannot be well spared ; besides the uneasiness upon men's minds, which would draw them from their callings, and the employments they are now engaged in : and what consequence that might have upon his majesty's revenue here, I leave to your lordship's better judgment. I beg your lordship's pardon for, and favourable representation of, what I have offered upon this subject, which are only my thoughts of what may be best for the king's service ; which when I have laid before you with all possible submission, I shall be ready to obey all commands, which your lordship shall send me. I dare be confident, none of those who have been with me upon this occasion are dissatisfied with my deportment towards them ; and by the grace of God they shall never have reason : and if his majesty be pleased with what I have done, I am as happy as I desire to be. Several persons have applied to me to renew their commissions for governours of counties, which they had from other lieutenants ; particularly my lord Mazareen hath been very earnest to be governour of the county of Londonderry, as he was formerly : but I have refused both him and every body else. And truly, my lord, in my humble opinion (with submission to better judgments) these offices

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of governours of counties are very insignificant, since the king hath thought fit to lay aside the militia, they having been in the nature of lords lieutenants : and therefore, I think, it is better to grant no such commissions. But of this, as of all things else, the king is the best judge. Your lordship fees, I am forced to trouble you almost every post ; which, I know, you will forgive, it being in the king's service. I beg the continuance of your lordship's favour and friendship to,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To Lord Dartmouth.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Feb. 8. 168 $\frac{1}{2}$.

THIS is to return your lordship my very humble thanks for your favour of the 21st past, and particularly for the kind offer you make me of your friendship ; which I do with all the sense imaginable embrace. My lord, friendships founded on the principles, your lordship mentions, of kindness between parents are the best and most lasting : a father's friend is most precious. I am old enough to remember the long friendship between our fathers, and the many kindnesses and obligations mine had to your's, especially in the time of his misfortunes ; which I shall never forget. If you will please to accept of my friendship, I do assure your lordship, you shall have it with all the possible returns of service and gratitude

tude whilst I live ; with this assurance, that I do depend more upon your lordship's sincerity and kindness, than upon any man's next my brother : and, I hope, you two will do each other good. Thus, my lord, I have ended all preambles for ever, and shall never make you a compliment, having been as little used to them, as your lordship. I expect the account and state of the office of the ordnance here from your lordship, as you mention ; which shall be quickly dispatched, after I receive it. If I do not give you constantly an account of all things in that office, it shall be your fault : for, according to your promise before I left England, I expect your rules and directions for my guide, to enable me the better to do my duty. I shall very often pursue you with my letters ; but expect answers from you no oftner, than you think necessary. My lord Mountjoy goes this week for England : I do take him to be a man of great worth and honour ; and one, who makes it his busines to serve the king as he ought to do in his station. I am sure, he has a great inclination and ambition to be a perfect servant to your lordship ; and I would be very glad, if I might be a means of begetting such an understanding, as there ought to be between you ; which would be for the king's service. I suppose, your lordship may have seen some fire-arms, which captain Forbus carried over to shew the king : those can be made here ; and so can all other muskets &c. for les money than the king pays in England : and so the exchange of the money and the freight will be saved, besides something in price, and the hazard : all which together will be considerable. The pikes, which come from England, cost, by the time they come hither, each 5s. 6d:

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they can be made here, and furnished into the stores, for 3s. 10d. each pike; for which I refer myself to colonel Macarty. I will not entertain your lordship any longer upon this subject in my first letter, but will speedily write to you more largely upon it: and, I am sure, my lord treasurer will be for the saving of the king's money; especially if the service can be as well performed. I think, I have tired you enough for the first time; and I would not make you quite weary of me: I will therefore conclude, that I am with great esteem and respect,

My dear Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord Treasurer.

Dublin Castle, Feb. 9. 1685.

IN my last on friday I acknowledged the receipt of yours of the 25th, 26th and 30th past: I will now endeavour to answer them particularly and in order. But, in the first place, I have written to the king and my lord president, as you advised; and have sent his majesty a copy of the same circular letter and list of names, which I sent to you in my 6th letter of the 29th past: and, I hope, I have done it with all possible modesty. Copies of both my letters are here enclosed, as I always send you: when you know all I do, and all I write to others, you can the better give me advertisements and advice, what I ought to do; which I am always glad to receive from

from you, I hope, you did not expect that I should have given you a particular relation of my reception here; which, I knew, would go over from some or other, as things of that kind always do. I must needs say, it was as great as could be; and I have all the reason in the world to be very well satisfied with the civilities I have received from all sorts of people here; who do, and ever shall meet with equal returns from me: which, I suppose, is the reason, that I have commonly, both at dinner and in the withdrawing room, as many of one sort as of the other with me.

I am very glad you like what I wrote to you of the commissioners of the revenue: the truth of it is, I must own, that the more I converse with them, the more reason I have to say, they are men of great industry and honesty. I do verily believe, they spend their whole time, as well as skill, to improve every branch of the revenue; and I do as firmly believe, they are as careful as men can be, that the king should suffer no sort of abuse: but with all this, I must needs say, I cannot approve of the method of their accounts; for in truth they are in none. They shewed me their leger books, which are as exactly kept as is possible; all arrears, both of what was in cash in the several collectors hands, and of what stood out from other people, being brought over from one account to the other; and so from year to year, in as exact a method as can be directed. I asked them, why they did not observe the same method in the abstracts they send to you? The answer was; they thought it sufficient to send you the gross produce of every branch of the revenue at the year's end, with what cash was in the collectors hands, and what

what arrears stood out at the end of that year; whereby you might see, how the revenue encreased or diminished: but, since you were not satisfied with that account, they are preparing another state of this last year's account to be laid before you; in which shall be expressed, what was in cash in the collectors hands the preceding year, and what arrears stood out then in their several districts; what is since received of those arrears, and what now remains in arrear the 25th of december last: and this, I am promised, shall be ready to be sent you within a very few days. But, when you have it, it will still be only a state, or view, whereby you may in truth see the clear produce of the revenue; what has been received, what has been issued, and what remains in real cash, what in arrear, and upon whom; but it will be no account: a method for which we are preparing to offer to you for your approbation; and for the better doing of it, I have communicated your letter of the 16th past to the commissioners; and, as soon as I have their thoughts upon the method you have there laid down, you shall have the whole matter transmitted to you, and this will be done very speedily. Upon this occasion I cannot but observe to you, that the revenue has now been just 3 years in management; and of 52 or 53 collectors, for so many there are in the kingdom, only 3 have accounted upon oath, and that for one year only: this is the reason why I say, the accounts of the revenue are in no method; and it must be a failure somewhere: the question is in whom. The auditor says (of whose office, which is very much out of order, I will speak hereafter) there is no fault in him: and he is in the right; for there is no branch of the revenue in charge before

fore him ; not so much as the name of any one collector. Therefore I tell the commissioners the fault must be in them ; they have the absolute management and government of the revenue, and it must be their work to see every body do their business. They tell me, their part is to call the collectors to account ; and, when they have adjusted every thing with them, then to return those accounts with the vouchers to the auditor, who is to engross them in form ; and then they, the collectors, are to swear to them before a baron of the exchequer : but they did not know, it was their parts to take care that the collectors should swear to their accounts ; which, for the future, they would take care of. I told them, they had not performed even what they owned was their part to do ; for they had transmitted to the auditor the collectors' accounts of the first year only : to which they could say nothing, but that those of the two following years should be speedily sent to him. I have taken some pains ; and by the help of the chancellor of the exchequer, (whom I must commend for his industry) we have spent a great deal of time with the deputy auditor ; and, I find, he hath fairly engrossed the accounts of the several collectors for the first year : but neither the deputations to the collectors, nor the king's commissions to the commissioners themselves are entered before him, which all ought to be ; or else he knows not what vouchers will be of sufficient authority for him to allow. I have taken a state of the first year's account ending the 24th of December 1683 from the auditor, drawn out of the accounts of the several collectors ; which, with the receiver general's account (of whom I will say more another time) for that year, must make

make up the account of the receipts and issues of the whole revenue for that year, and will be all that will appear upon record; which state does not agree with the account sent you of that year: but of this you shall have a very full state in the letter. I shall very speedily write to you in form in answer to yours of the 16th; when I shall lay before you a method for the accounts of the revenue of this kingdom to be taken in; which if you approve, I will undertake, that the accounts of the last preceding three years shall be put into it in two months time: and, within a very few days, you shall have a state sent you of the last year's account; whereby you shall see the clear produce of the revenue, what has been received, how issued, and what remains in cash, what in arrear, and upon whom; all which shall be as plain, as when you have the account before you in form. I have only said thus much now in my private letter, that you may see I am not idle, but that I spend a great deal of time (as in truth I do) with every one of the officers, who, I think, by reason of their offices, are able to inform me of any thing. The commissioners, I must say, are wonderfully industrious, and, I believe, very honest; and take as much pains as ever men did: but, I doubt, they had too much a mind (at least some of them) to value their own services; and, that they might be masters of all things themselves, they would not call to any of the king's officers for help. As for instance, though there were sometimes motions of great consequence to be made in the exchequer, they would never vouchsafe to speak one syllable to the chancellor of the exchequer; who constantly attends in that court and never fails, and is really

really a very worthy gentleman. I have him always with me, when the commissioners are with me ; which, I find, at first did not please them : upon which I told them one day, that, except they could make a just exception to the chancellor, I would always have him with me. This I told them, when he was not present, that they might make objections to him, if they had any : they said, truly they had nothing to say against him ; but he understood not their busines. I told them, the affairs of the revenue, and the accounting for it, ought to be no mystery nor secret to the king's officers ; and therefore I would have him with me, both for my assistance and justification ; and yet they should be with me in private as often as they had a mind to : and I could not but wonder, they would have so little regard, as in truth to slight the king's officers. And upon this occasion I asked them, what was the reason, they took no notice of the accomptant general : to which they replied, that Dr. Wood was a freakish man, and they did not think fit to employ him ; that Mr. Boneil they did not know, till since Wood's death, and therefore they thought fit to impose the old clerks upon them ; and for Mr. Trumbull, they believed him an able and industrious man. But I said, he had been here six months and not yet settled in his office ; to which they knew not what to say, but that he should be presently settled. These things I only hint to you ; but I beg you to have a little patience, till I lay all things before you ; which shall be very speedily. I think, I have pretty well tired you with this subject ; and so will go to other parts of your letter. I have had Mr. Price with me, and pursued the method you prescribed, in first reading

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the paper to him, and then giving it him, and requiring him to give me his answer in writing; which, he says, he will do very speedily, and fully, and truly. I think, I could do it for him in some of the articles: but I will say no more of him nor the matter, till I send you his own answer. As to what you say of my lord Cornbury's affair, it would require more paper than this letter (which is too long) to pay you my thanks for the trouble you have had in it: but I will say nothing upon that matter at this time; for I intend very quickly to write to you something of my thoughts concerning him in a letter apart.

I come now to your's of the 26th past; to which there is little occasion of replying more than to assure you, that I am very well satisfied, that you take your own time and way of giving me an answer to what I said of my own allowances. To your's of the 30th past I do assure you, I am far from being mortified, that I have not the command of the regiment of guards; but am infinitely pleased, it is placed in the hands which have it; and do rest satisfied with whatever rule the king makes: and so will not weary you with saying more upon that subject, than that I owe you thanks for your being mindful of me in that, as well as every thing else. As to the busines of the sheriffs, if my lord T — is satisfied, that the choice is generally so bad, he should have left me some intimations behind him; for he knew, who were upon the roll, before he went for England. It cannot be imagined, that I could yet know men myself; which by the grace of god I will do another year, if I have the honour to be here: but, upon the whole matter, I was as inquisitive, as

as the time would permit, to inform myself ; and I did neither tie myself to the roll given me by my lord chancellor, (for I nominated several others) nor to his lordship's representations ; but was guided by the best information I could get from the honestest I could find of both religions ; and will still believe, from what catholicks as well as protestants have told me, that, for the generality, there has not been a better set (if I may so term it) of the sheriffs at any time. As to any being in, who have personally behaved themselves ill towards the king before or since his coming to the crown, I am sure, I know of no such ; and if I did, I would not only not have made him a sheriff, but will never be a means of putting any such into any employment whatsoever. Nor will I ever be found to have a friendship with any one, who has been particularly undutiful to the king at any time ; which would less become me than any man living. I think, it will be very well, if there be no martial of the army ; and, in my opinion, considering the numbers of the army here, the fewer general officers here are the better. I formerly told you my thoughts, that colonel Macarty was much fitter to be major general, than sir Thomas Newcomen. He is a man of quality ; for his being a soldier, according to his experience, I think, is not doubted ; and he has behaved himself extremely well, wherever he has been quartered, with great easiness and moderation ; which every body has not done. The other, every body knows, is no soldier, wretchedly sordid, and a brute ; and I never heard of any title he had to merit, but his alliance. As to the exception my lord T — makes upon every occasion, that the late lords justices

were not men of busines ; (which is my friend Macarty's common-place too) I shall only say, that perhaps they would be of another opinion, if they were more men of business themselves. For the primate, certainly he is a man of great experience, and, I will presume to say, of great knowledge too in all affairs here : I know his foible, and am aware of it. As to lord Granard, I will not pretend to speak of his martial skill ; but, I pray then, consider the little experience of his contemners, especially of the mighty lord. I will presume to say, Granard does very well understand the several interests of this country, as to the principles of the several parties ; and, I am sure, he is exactly honest in all his dealings, and generous to all that are under him. And of his eminent loyalty to the crown in the worst of times (which ought not to be forgot) there are few witnesses now living besides myself.

I have now tired you sufficiently : though, I know, you have not much time to spare to read such long letters, yet I cannot help writing them, having so much to say ; and a great deal I leave now for another time. I would not have you think, by the length of my letters, that I have time to throw away, for in truth I have not ; but I would fain make haste to know every thing, and then to give you an account of all things, when I do understand them. You may expect an account of my performance on the 6th of february ; which, I will take care, you shall have a relation of. I will only say, that I celebrated the day as well as I could, and as well as the illness of the castle would give me leave : in a word, I went very decently to church on horseback, was attended

ed by all the nobility in town (a great many) of both religions; lord Clanrickard carried the sword &c, and as many dined with me, as the house would hold. God almighty keep you and yours.

To the KING.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, Feb. 11. 168 $\frac{1}{2}$.

THIS bearer, colonel Macarty, is so well known to your majesty, that there is no need of my saying any thing in his behalf, but what he will not give himself leave to say; which is, to give your majesty an account, how infinitely he is esteemed in all places where he has been in this kingdom, his obliging carriage having gained upon every body; which the bishop of the diocese and several others have told me, and desired, I would thank him for the favours they have received from him. He tells me, he has a pretension, from your majesty's gracious promise to him, to be advanced to a greater station in the army, when you think fit to make any more general officers. I hope, it will not be too great a presumption in me to say, that colonel Macarty will be as grateful to all people here, as any man your majesty can put into such a post: of the merits of his family, and his own in particular, I need say nothing. I have discoursed with colonel Macarty about providing arms here for your majesty's forces, which he will acquaint your majesty with better than I can do. It may be done at infinite cheaper rates, than they come to out of England: and the arms will be much better. But of this I will write more.

LETTERS OF

more particularly to my lord Dartmouth, as being in his province. Your majesty's goodness is such, that I know you will forgive the trouble of my letters sometimes, though I have nothing to say but to cast myself at your majesty's feet, as becomes,

Sir,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,
CLARENDON.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, Feb. 11. 168 $\frac{5}{6}$.

COLONEL Macarty must not go hence without carrying my most humble service to your lordship in a particular manner. I need not say any thing to your lordship on his behalf: his own merit, as well as person, is sufficiently known to you; but yet I must not omit telling your lordship (in justice to him) how extremely he has gained upon all people, among whom he has lived. The bishop of Cork and several others have desired me to give him thanks for the civilities they have received from him. I am sure, I need not move your lordship to support his pretensions with the king; but I may assure you, his majesty can employ no body, in his way, who will be more acceptable to people here. In mine of the 24th past, I gave your lordship some account of Robert Clarke of Kin-sale: I have since examined him myself, and found his discourse very confused and perplexed, and his narrative more so; a true copy of which I here send your lordship.

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I believe, the man intends honestly ; therefore I will take care to protect him. Most of the persons, he mentions, are either in prison, or upon bail : and I will direct the judges (who are now going their circuits) to see them indicted and prosecuted, as far as the matter will bear. When men see, they shall not transgress without being questioned ; they will, perhaps, learn to keep within bounds : I am sure, none shall pass unquestioned or unpunished, as long as I have the honour to be here. I have just this minute received the favour of your lordship's of the 6th instant ; for which I return you most humble thanks. I have great reason to be abundantly satisfied with the disposition, his majesty has made, of the cornet's place in colonel Hamilton's regiment, and humbly thank your lordship for your promise of the next place to Mr. Flemming.

All the officers here do make great complaints of their arms ; which, in truth, are very bad : there may be much better made here, and for less rates than the king pays at London ; so that, at least, the exchange of the money and the freight will be saved, and there will be no hazard. Colonel Macarty will discourse this matter fully to your lordship ; and so will my lord Mountjoy, who is master of the ordnance here, and very industrious in the king's service. He now goes for England only to meet his son from France, and to send him into Hungary : he will be back here again in two months, unless your lordship keeps him there ; which, I hope, you will not. Colonel Macarty has spoken to me concerning the checks, which are put upon officers and soldiers at their musters : that method has been always practised in the army here ; but

but it is an imposition not laid upon the army in England. It does not become me to meddle with any thing I find, which is pretended to be for the king's service, without first representing it to his majesty ; but, I confess, I know no reason, why it should be otherwise here than in England. I know, if they are taken away, it will take away a great part of my secretary's perquisites ; but I would not have any such consideration hinder what shall be thought for the king's service : and, I think, the poor soldier ought to have as much of the king's pay come into his pocket, as is possible. Colonel Macarty will discourse this matter fully to your lordship ; and I shall be ready to give your lordship any further information of the matter as you shall require me. I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENCE.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Feb. 14. 1685.

THE arch-bishoprick of Cashell having been sometime void by the death of the late arch-bishop, I do humbly propose to his majesty, that the now bishop of Ossory and Kilkenny may be removed to Cashell ; that the now bishop of Cloyne should be removed to Ossory and Kilkenny, and to hold the arch-deaconry of Armagh in commendam, as it is now enjoyed by the present bishop ; and

and that the dean of Cloyne should be advanced to that bishoprick of Cloyne: which being but small, I humbly propose to have added thereunto, by way of commendam, the vicarage of Clondroghid, in the said dioceſe of Cloyne, and now in his poſſeſſion. Though there be but one See vaca nt, yet, for the enlargement of his maſte ry's firſt fruits, and to make them as conſiderable as I can upon this occaſion, I have humbly propoſed theſe removes; if his maſte ry ſhall think fit to approve them. I have herewith ſent your lordship the draughts of letters for his maſte ry's ſignature on this occaſion: and, this being the uſual and conſtant practice of the chief governour of this place, and agreeable to his maſte ry's declared pleaſure to me in the 23d iſtruction, I humbly preuume to beſeech his maſte ry's favour herein, the perſons here repreſented being of approved piety, learning and integrity. I remain,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's moſt faithful humble ſervant,
CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Arch-biſhop of C A N T E R B U R Y.

Dublin Castle, Feb. 14. 168⁵.

I HAVE this day made a repreſentation to his maſte ry for filling the See of Cashell; which, your grace knows, has been ſome time void: and, purſuant to his maſte ry's direc tions of co rre ſponding with your grace in church affairs, I take the liberty of giving you an account of what I have done; which that you may fee, I ſend

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you here enclosed a copy of the letter I have written to my lord president upon that subject. Dr. Otway, the present bishop of Ossory, whom I have proposed to be removed to Cashell, is a person of true primitive piety : when he was turned out of his living in our rebellious times, he was content to live in the West Indies for half a crown a week, till the king's happy restoration ; he came into this country with my lord Berkeley, and has gained reverence from all people, among whom he has lived. If he be removed to Cashell, I am sure, the first thing he will do will be to repair his cathedral, which, I hear, has need of it ; and which he has done in one or two places already. Dr. Jones, the present bishop of Cloyne, whom I propose to be translated to Ossory, is a very worthy man, and has done great good in the diocese, he now is in ; even to his own detriment, to promote the interest of the church : he was domestick chaplain to the duke of Ormond ; who will give your grace an account of him. These two prelates I know : but the dean of Cloyne, whom I recommend to that See, I do not know at all : his name is Fitz-Gerald ; he is nephew to my lord primate here, who is concerned for him ; and I would not have him suffer upon a mistake, there being another clergyman of that name, who, perhaps, is not so discreet as he should be. But if the king should not approve of making this dean bishop of Cloyne ; I do then humbly offer to consideration some few other persons ; such as I have (in the little time I have been here) got the best account of ; viz. Dr. Huntingdon, provost of the college : he was of Oxford ; so your grace may have a better account of him than I can give you. He is a worthy man ;

man; but I find by some of his acquaintance, he would be willing to quit the station he is in, if he might be removed to his advantage. The provostship is worth near 400l. per annum; and the bishoprick of Cloyne is not above 500l. per annum. If it be thought fit to send him to Cloyne, then Dr. Pallefar, a fellow of the college here, is the fittest man to be provost: he is of great learning and exemplary piety; he would make a very good bishop, if it be not thought fit to advance one of the others last named. But, if his majesty pleaseth, he may keep the bishoprick of Cloyne a little in suspence, till the filling it be further thought on. But, I hope, your grace will solicit the settling the other two, the See of Cashell having been fix months vacant. Thus, I doubt, I have tired your grace with this affair; but it is the best representation I am able to make: and, I think, which of the persons forever be approved of, the church will receive no prejudice. I have written thus largely to none but your grace, as you will see by the enclosed; therefore, I hope, you will take this matter into your care. I am preparing, as fast as I can be well informed, a state of the concerns of the church of this kingdom to lay before your lordship; which shall acquaint you with the circumstances of persons as well as of things. It is now high time to beg your grace's pardon for this tedious letter, and likewise to implore your directions; which shall be carefully pursued. I most humbly beseech your benediction to,

My Lord,

Your Grace's
most humble and most obedient servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

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*To the Lord TREASURER.*Dublin Castle, Feb. 16. 168⁵.

BY your's of the 4th instant, which I acknowledged on the 11th, I did not expect, the commissions of lord Offory and the earl of Arglasse would have been sent to me: nor should I have insisted on it; because, as their circumstances are, it would have been no precedent. But Mr. Bridgeman, in his letter of the 6th, sent down those commissions to sir Paul Rycaut; which, in truth, upon further thoughts, was necessary: for the parties concerned can have no benefit of their commissions, till they are entered with the commissary general; and in that respect, it was as proper to send them to me, as by any other way: and, I suppose now, if any who are to have commands here, should attempt the getting the commissions themselves; it will be a very good answer to say, that it was not allowed in the case of those lords, though they were in England. I have written to my lord Sunderland concerning the church affairs, in order to filling up the See of Cashell: copies of which letters I herewith send you. I have written at large to my lord of Canterbury upon that subject; the king having directed me to correspond with his grace in those affairs. I could wish, that Fitz-Gerald, the dean of Cloyne, might be advanced to that See, for my lord primate's sake, to whom he is nephew; and he does much pres^s it: truly I do not hear any thing ill of the man; but in this you will do, what you think fit. There is one Jones in England, who was chaplain to my lord of Arran, and by him made dean of Lismore:

Lismore : he has been in England near a year, gaping for preferment. I know, he is recommended to the king for his loyalty, as his majesty told me himself. I took the liberty to tell the king, I could not object against his loyalty ; that I knew he was bred a clerk in the stables at the Mews, since his majesty's restauration ; that he had wit ; but that I thought, by what I had seen myself, he did not live, as a man of his coat and calling ought to do. When he came to me at London to bespeak my kindness, I wished him to go with me into Ireland, and reside upon his deanry ; which would be a good inducement for me to recommend him for better preferment. His answer, in plain terms, was ; that he would not go into Ireland, till he knew, what would be done for him. I tell you this story, in hopes, that you will take some care, that this man might not be imposed upon me at this time ; which he would look upon as a triumph. I am sure, I can have no end in keeping any out, or bringing any one in, but the good of the church and the king : and, most certainly, there are not worse people in the world, than some I have known, who cloak all their irregularities (to call them no worse vices) under the shelter of loyalty. As long as they rail at rebellion in the common-place language, and talk, preach and hector in the phrase of loyalty, they think, they have a just title to be forgiven all other enormities. But enough of this. I suppose colonel Macarty will let you know his grievances ; though I have endeavoured to let him see, that I will very easily redress most of them ; as you will find by the answers you will receive from me by the next post, both to some of your publick letters concerning the impresting
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of money, and likewise to Mr. Price's affair in your private letter; whose full answer I shall have tomorrow: and, I think, it will be very clear. One of Macarty's complaints is, that Mr. Price sends the soldiers, the lord knows how far, to receive their pay; when he has money in their quarters: to which you will find a full, and, I think, satisfactory answer, when I send you his paper; for it is among lord Tyrconnel's articles: but in the mean time I send you an exact account enclosed of the places, where his men were assigned to be paid; and of the distance those places are from their quarters. Now if it be considered, that where there is no occasion to use money (as there is not in several places of the kingdom where there are collections, and whither the revenue, when collected, is brought) and from whence there are no returns to be had, the soldiers must be employed to fetch the money, and to bring it to the receiver general; perhaps it may be thought as reasonable for the soldiers to fetch the money for their own use, as to carry it the receiver general. This very last week I granted Mr. Price an order for some of the troops to fetch 1600l. from Sligoe; because there was no use of it there: Mr. Price paid the convoy himself, and never brings it to the king's account. I likewise send you the collector's certificate, when and where the men were paid; that you may see, how soon the assignments were discharged: by these papers you will be able fully to satisfy this complaint, if colonel Macarty makes it. Another great grievance, he complains of, is, that there should be deductions taken from the soldier here, which are not in England; and particularly the cheques, which, he says, are in no army in the world,

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but here. I told him, I could not speak as to that, being no soldier; but that the imposing of cheques had been practised in the army here, ever since the king's restoration; and therefore I would not alter that practice, if I could, without orders from the king. But truly, I think, there ought to be no more deductions made, than are absolutely necessary; and that there should as much of the king's pay come into the soldier's pocket, as is possible: and therefore I writ by the colonel to my lord Sunderland, that I see no reason, why that matter should be otherwise here than in England; that, I know, if the cheques are taken away, a great part of the perquisites of my secretary will be lessened; but I would not have any such consideration hinder, what shall be thought for the king's service. I entertain you with this affair, because it is matter of money; and therefore, I conceive, you may take cognizance of it: and that you may be the better instructed, I here send you a little paper concerning the nature of the cheques, and the charge of taking them off, when they are imposed; which, I confess, is a little hard, in my opinion, upon the poor soldiers: but, I am assured, those fees are the same, which have been paid in the times of all governours here these five and twenty years. I send you likewise a paper of the several deductions, which are made from the soldier: whether they are more than are taken in England, or whether it may be thought fit, to put this army upon the same foot in all things with that in England, I leave to better judgments. I have written to Mr. Blathwait to give me an account of several things belonging to the army, that I may be the more knowing. I make it my busines to understand every

ry thing, in all the offices, as much as I can ; and I doubt not, but, in a little time, I shall be pretty perfect. For the present, adieu. God almighty keep you and yours.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Feb. 16. 168 $\frac{1}{2}$.

I HAVE written to your lordship in form concerning the church affairs ; which I have taken the liberty to do in another hand, thinking it will not be disagreeable to your lordship. As to that matter, I beg leave to assure your lordship, that I will never recommend any to be preferred in the church, whom I do not personally know to be truly of the church of England. The person, whom I have represented to your lordship for the arch-bishoprick of Cashell, I have long known. He was turned out of all he had in the rebellious times for his loyalty, and was upon the matter sold in the West Indies ; where he continued till the king's restoration : he came into Ireland with my lord Berkeley, and has gained the esteem and veneration of all people, among whom he has lived : in a word, he is a true primitive prelate ; and I dare undertake, he will never grow rich, but will lay out all he gets upon the church and the poor. I can likewise say of the bishop of Cloyne, whom I humbly propose to be removed to Offory and Kilkenny, that he is a very worthy man, and does good where he lives ; and will always make his calling his busines. I hope, by your lordship's means, his majesty will be pleased to approve of these two recommendations ; for, in truth, I do not know, where

where two better men can be found. As for the dean of Cloyne, whom I mention to be translated to that See, I cannot say (for I will always tell your lordship the truth) that I know him; but I must do him the justice to say, that I have not heard ill of him; and I would not have him suffer by mistake, there being one of the same name, who, perhaps, is not so discreet as he ought to be. But, if your lordship thinks not fit to advance the dean to the bishoprick of Cloyne, that matter may be very well suspended without any prejudice, till it be further considered. With your lordship's leave, I would beg the favour, that sir Thomas Longuevill might have the honour to be of the king's learned council here: he is an old cavalier, and decayed in his fortune; he picks up a little livelihood by following the law; and the character of being of the king's council will both give him reputation, and bring him, out of the crowd, within the bar, where he may fit down; which will be a great ease to his old age. I am with great respect and sincerity,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord T R E A S U R E R.

Dublin Castle, Feb. 20. 168 $\frac{5}{6}$.

LAST night I received your's of the 13th instant; and I wonder, how I came to be so negligent, as to omit the date of any of my letters: I will not be often guilty of

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that error. As to what you say of sir Robert Colvill, if you look upon my letter (which being marked 7 ought to have been dated the 5th instant) you will find, I tell you, I can say nothing of him, but as I am told by the different parties here. I do assure you, I am far from giving credit to any people here, when they give me accounts one of another : I make use of what they say only for information ; and sometimes, by comparing what several tell me, I am able to find out the truth both concerning things and persons. And whenever I can say any thing, good or bad of a man, upon my own knowledge, I will tell you so directly, and the particular reasons, why I think him as I represent him. I only say this, because by the grace of god I will never represent any man partially ; and when you think I do, pray be so kind as to tell me so. I need not tell you, I shall always put great value upon the characters the duke of Ormond gives of persons. I am told, this sir Robert Colvill intends to come to Dublin to see me : I shall receive him as civilly as he can desire ; and I shall, as occasion offers, represent him as I find him. I think you know pretty well my mind, as to supporting men, as far as I can possibly without making myself liable to be represented by some as partial, to keep the balance as even as may be, with reference to a party, who according to their temper grow at least forward and brisk enough. As to what you say of Mr. Keightley, I do assure you, I never told him or any body else, what you had in your thoughts for him : you writ it with that caution, besides the uncertain circumstances the matter was in, that it could be of no use to tell it him, but to raise his expectation ; which I do not
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love to do to any man. I can tell a man a thing whenever I have a mind to it ; but I cannot unspeak it, when I have told it : therefore it is the safest error to be silent. Of the present design, to get him the nominal office of vice-treasurer, he does know, but it is from my lord primate ; who told it him, and who, I writ you word, proposed it to me, and gave me the copy of the patent which I sent you. I have told him, that I have recommended the thing to you ; but I will not tell him, you have made me any answer upon it, till you send me the thing done. If it be granted, you will remember, the method is to be by a letter from the king to me ; for it is to pass the great seal here, and the commission is to be drawn here. As to the two observations you make concerning Mr. Price, I cannot but wonder at the objection — That the money, which he pretends to have paid to the army, at the time of making his abstract, is in truth not paid : the truth of which is so easily to be known. But, I think, this matter is in a great measure cleared by what I sent you in my last, concerning colonel Macarty's regiment. By the certificate of the collector you see, where and when every company was paid : and, if you have a mind to it, you shall have the same satisfaction for the whole army. But, besides all this, he could not put down the sum to be paid, if it were not really paid ; for, as I have told you in some of my former letters, I suppose, no man will charge himself with money, which he has not received ; and Mr. Price can receive none from any collector, till the order or assignment, which he sends for it, be first signed by the accomptant general ; and attested by the clerk of the pells, that it is entered there. The soldiers

know, the receiver general can pay no money without warrants from the chief governour: and as they would be clamorous upon him, if he did not give them money or assignments as soon as he has the warrants; so there would be noise enough, if the collectors did not pay the money, as soon as they had the assignments. There has been yet no complaint since my being here; at least of any collector's not paying money, when the assignment was drawn upon him: and whenever there is, I do assure you, that collector shall be turned out of his employment. Mr. Price brings me every monday morning an abstract of his account for the week ending the saturday before; a copy whereof I always send you. At the same time I have likewise an abstract from the office of the pells, attested by the proper officer; which abstracts I compare every monday in the afternoon with the accomptant general's leger: so that, except it can be imagined, that the receiver general, and accomptant general and the clerk of the pells will all join together in the fraud, the king cannot be wronged. Thus, I think, I have fully cleared your first observation; but still I shall be watchful in that particular. I will only add one word more; that I am confident, after a little time, if you mind the weekly abstracts, you will see plainly, that Mr. Price can never have ten thousand pounds of the king's money in his hands. As to the other thing you mention, concerning the poundage, which is to be deposited in Mr. Robinson's hands; it requires some thought, before I can return you a full answer to it: it has been already in debate between Mr. solicitor and me, as we have been considering of Mr. Price's security, which gave a natural rise to the question; and

and the whole shall be laid before you the next week. I here return you my lord Tyrconnel's paper; which, I assure you, no body has seen: nor have I so much as taken a copy of it; though I would have been willing to have done it. I gave it Mr. Price in the manner you prescribed; and here enclosed I send you his answer; which to my apprehension is very full and clear: most of the particulars I know to be true, they having upon other occasions come in my way. I need not say any thing to support Mr. Price's answer; though there are some things in lord Tyrconnel's paper, which do reflect upon the government: but I will take no notice, till they are brought as reflections upon me in particular. Only one word I will add to Mr. Price's answer to the second article, I have marked in the margin. He says, the receiver general does already (in great part) forbear impresting money. I may say, I have put a total end to it: that the soldier may have his money come clear to him, free from all deductions, other than those allowed of, I have taken order, that the army shall be fully paid every three months; that is, as soon as the muster-rolls are perfected, every regiment shall be completely cleared. And in the mean time whatever officer, for himself or men, wants any money; upon the least application to me, I will imprest to them out of the king's money, what sum they have occasion for, without any charge or fee, either to the receiver general, or to my secretary for the order. This I have already done, both to colonel Hamilton's dragoons and others; and this I told colonel Macarty, with which he seemed very well satisfied. I sent you in my last a perfect account of the usual deductions from the army; which I had

LETTERS OF

had from the commissary general. And that you may have that whole matter before you, and see how much or how little of the king's pay the poor soldier really receives, I have taken from Mr. Price an account of the deductions made in the treasury; as well those made by the colonel's directions, as the usual ones. I send you that of my lord Tyrconnel's regiment of horse; and of colonel Macarty's and sir Thomas Newcomen's regiments of foot: you shall have them of the rest of the army as fast as they can be written out. Pray observe, the great grievances are pells, and the muster-master; which, they say, are things not known in England: the pells, you see, is 10*s.* in the 100*l.* which is one penny farthing in the pound: the muster-master is one day's pay in the year; which, being 6*d.* per diem to the common soldier, is less than $\frac{1}{4}$ in the pound; both which sums make not full 2*d.* per lib. The deduction for the colonel's agent is 2*d.* per lib. so that they grumble to pay 2*d.* per lib. which has been the constant practice ever since there has been an army in Ireland; when they make no scruple of deducting 2*d.* per lib. for the agent, which no body must enquire into the reasons of: besides that the muster-master general hath always had the day's pay from every soldier, ever since the time of colonel King, grandfather to the present lord Kingston, (as I have found) and perhaps longer, for ought I know. If you see, what he has upon the establishment, and consider the number of clerks he is obliged to keep, and the great labour is upon him, you will believe the day's pay is not too much for him. And if that 2*d.* per lib. to him and the pells is taken of, I hope, care will be taken, that the poor soldier may be
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the better for it. I have troubled you with all this, that you may see, I think here; and, I hope, you will do so there before any alteration be made. This morning colonel Hamilton came to me and said, he had some business in England, and had written to my lord Tyrconnel to ask the king's leave; and that he had last night an answer from my lord Tyrconnel, that the king did give him leave; and therefore he desired, I would give him a licence, and that he would be back again in May. I told him he should have it; for, in truth, I knew not how to refuse him, after what he said to me. I told him jestingly, that he could not live out of the sweet town of London; for he came from thence but a fortnight before me: and, I believed, the king would hasten him back, because there were so many of the officers of the army in England at this time; which, in truth, is not well. I intend to write to my lord Sunderland upon it: it were to be wished, that, when officers send into England for leave to go over, it might not be granted; but that they should be directed to apply to the chief governour, if he thinks it fit to give them leave to be absent from their commands. I shall observe all the caution you give me about writing to my lord president. Whenever I write to the king, I enclose it to him; and, as you may see by the copies of my letters, I always tell his lordship the subject upon which I write to his majesty. I will not knowingly do any thing to choke his lordship. God almighty keep you and all yours. I have sent two or three petitions to Mr. Shaw; which I have desired him to speak to you of, when it is convenient. I would be glad to have your directions, what is fit for me to do in them:

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the things are necessary, though they do not seem very important. The heralds coats are really very ragged, and not fit to be seen.

To the Lord C H A N C E L L O R.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, Feb. 23. 168⁶.

AS I was very much troubled to hear of your late great illness; so, I assure your lordship, I was greatly rejoiced to find by the last letters, that you were perfectly recovered. I heartily wish you long continuance of good health; without which there is no great comfort in this life. I have had no occasion hitherto of giving your lordship the trouble of any letters; and, I know, you have not much time to spare in reading letters which are not of busines. I have given my lord president as frequent, and as exact accounts of things, as the short time I have yet been here has enabled me to do; which I shall continue: though some of my letters may perhaps be impertinent; and though I may give very various characters of people, sometimes good and sometimes bad of the same persons. I will never say any thing of people upon my own knowledge, till I do know them; but, in the mean time, I think it my duty to lay before the king what I hear from any probable hand, either good or bad, that so the best measures may be taken by those, from whom I ought to be directed; and I will lose no time in getting all acquaintance I can, both of things and persons.

The judges are now gone and going their circuits: I have given them the best directions I can for the king's service;

service; and I doubt not, but, at their return, I shall be able (together with the informations I shall have from other hands) to lay before his majesty some kind of view of the state of this kingdom. I must needs acquaint your lordship, that, by all which appears to me, I can find no fault with the judges: they seem by their practice in the courts to be zealously concerned in supporting the king's prerogative; and, if some of them are not endowed with all the learning that were to be wished, I think they are all honest men; which will cover many failings. If your lordship has a mind to have a more particular account of them, you shall have it, to the best of my observation: I am sure, it shall be without partiality. But why do I interrupt your lordship with so long a letter? My design in writing was purely to beg your friendship, and to assure you, that I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To *Lord Sunderland.*

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Feb. 26. 168 $\frac{1}{2}$.

I HAVE lately had much discourse with some roman catholicks, very honest, sober gentlemen, who have always served the crown, about the letter, which sometime since I sent to your lordship: which letter, they told me, they did not approve of; and that, at a meeting one time, where 30 of those letters were brought to be signed, in

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order to be sent into several counties, they burnt them all ; but that some of the company drew up another letter, which was signed by some of them ; a copy whereof they gave me, that I might know the truth of all that was doing. This copy I take the liberty to send to your lordship, that so the king may know all that comes to me ; which by the grace of god he always shall ; by which means your lordship will be better able to give me such directions, as you shall think fit. I told these gentlemen, as I said formerly, that whatever complaints they had to make, if they would bring them to me, I would transmit them to his majesty ; and they should be judges themselves, whether I did not use all possible endeavours to promote their relief, in the methods the king should prescribe : and that, as to the contributions they designed for the sending and supporting of agents in England, I was of opinion, they would be defrauded of that money, as some of their friends had been formerly. The answer, that was given me, was, that they were prest by some persons, who were then in Leinster, to take this method : but I am assured, nothing further shall be proceeded in without my privity ; which I verily believe, because the persons, who tell me so, are men of worth, and will keep their words.

I send your lordship here enclosed a petition to the king from my lord Gormontowne and my lord Ikerin, in behalf of themselves, and several other lords and gentlemen : the fathers of those lords and several others were outlawed in the time of the Irish rebellion ; and your lordship will see by their prayer, they desire to be admitted to reverse the said outlawries. Several of the persons have served the king

king very well since ; and by the late king's favour have been advanced to higher titles, and restored to their estates : and certainly they (as many of them as are alive at least) ought to be restored in blood, as well as to their estates. The children of many of them are in his majesty's service ; and therefore may deserve likewise to partake so much farther of his majesty's favour : but the best way of doing it, will be the question ; for it is a case of greater consequence than may at first appear. I would therefore offer, with humble submission, that it may be well considered of ; which I have not yet thought fit to do by advising with any one here, till I receive his majesty's direction : and then I do not doubt, but secure ways will be found out to satisfy all doubts that may arise, both as to his majesty's service, and for the satisfaction of particular persons. I would likewise humbly advise, that, if his majesty shall be graciously inclined to extend his favour in this case, it may not be in the lump, as the petition is drawn ; but to particular persons : the doing it in the gross would be liable to more exceptions, and would, I fear, greatly alarm the English ; and perhaps startle some of the Irish too, who have got new estates ; which I could wish, for the king's service, may be avoided : and the doing it in particular cases would, in my humble opinion, be better for the king, because he would thereby be best informed ; and it would, in a little time, be of the same advantage to the persons concerned. If your lordship please to direct me, I will send you a list of all such, both lords and others, who were outlawed at that time. Whatever the king thinks fit to direct in this matter, shall be carefully observed. The judges are some

of them gone, and the rest are going their circuits: I have given them particular directions severally in all things relating to the king's service; and doubt not to have a good return; the men, by all that appears to me, being very full, not only of duty, but of zeal in his majesty's service. Before I left England my lord chancellor and my lord treasurer of Scotland both spoke to me to enquire after one David Mountgomery of Lanshagh; who, they told me, had some estate in this kingdom, and having been in the rebellion with Argyle, is outlawed in Scotland. I have made all the enquiry I could after him, but could gain no information till the last week, that sir Robert Colvill came to town; who has given me a very particular account of the man, and likewise of his estate; which though small, I have sent an account of it to my lord treasurer, and do intend to have him prosecuted the next term, in order to his outlawry. I have sent to my lord chancellor of Scotland to give me what materials he can against him: sir Robert Colvill tells me, he believes, he has not been in this kingdom since the taking of Argyle. This sir Robert Colvill (notwithstanding the information I sent your lordship sometime since) is represented to me under a very good character, by very honest men: to me he makes all possible professions of duty and loyalty to the king, and promiseth me, upon his return into the country, to give me a good and exact account of all those parts; which, I am satisfied, he can do better, than any one who lives in the country; and I shall quickly see, whether he will do it nor no. He is now in ~~to wn~~ upon the account of marrying his eldest son to my lord of Clancarty's sister: he is a man of a great estate, and

and a general interest in the north of this kingdom. I can say nothing of him upon my own knowledge; for I have seen him but twice: but I think it my duty to tell your lordship all the good, as well as all the bad, of men of whom I speak. My lord, it was once the practice in England, in my memory, to threaten men, who would not do what some desired, to bring them into the popish plot. I am afraid, there is something of the like nature setting up here now: if a man be angry with his neighbour upon any private account, he is threatened to be accused of having said ill things of the king, when duke, four or more years since. Two or three tories lately taken, and who have been outlawed three or four years since, have sent to me, that, if they may have their pardons, they will make great discoveries of the duke of Monmouth's plot, as they call it. Such things as these will make all men very uneasy: but however, I know, it is fit to make all enquiry into every thing that has been spoken irreverently of the king, at what time soever; and therefore I have taken such care, as it shall be done effectually, without setting up the trade of pardoning; which was, upon other occasions, very inconvenient. I hope, I shall give your lordship such an account of these and all other matters, as his majesty will not be displeased with.

I have had several informations of several rebels, who run to and again from Scotland into the north of this kingdom; but have had no account of the names of any: but I have employed Mr. Cormock O Neil, (brother to a gentleman of that name, who waits upon the queen;

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and who did himself formerly wait upon the late dutchess) a justice of the peace in the county of Antrim; and some other justices of the peace in those parts, who are active good men, to watch those parts; and I doubt not, but I shall have an account of every one, who goes out of one kingdom to the other. I am commanded, by the 26th instruction, to establish a packet-boat between this kingdom and Scotland; if I shall find it necessary for the king's service. I am humbly of opinion, that it would be very useful; there being no way of corresponding with his majesty's ministers in that kingdom, but by the way of London: whereas, if there were a packet-boat, all letters would be sooner at Edinburgh from hence, than they are at London. Besides, it is said, it would bring on a trade between these kingdoms. The charge to the king for two boats will not be above four-score pounds a year; and for that, I am sure, I can have it undertaken. If the king please to have the trial made for one year, if it does not answer expectation, the boats may be put down again.

I think, I have now tired your lordship sufficiently; for which I beg your pardon, and am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENCEON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, Feb. 27. 1685.

I OUGHT to make an excuse for writing a postscript at the bottom of my publick letter to you, concerning the duke of Ormond's prisage; it being of a subject of consequence sufficient to have been in the body of the letter: but the commissioners of the revenue came just then to me, as I was making up my letter; and I thought it of too much importance to lie any days by me, since the former contract expired at christmas last. The commissioners of the revenue have made a representation to me concerning the neglect of several of the patent officers of this kingdom; upon which I am advising with Mr. solicitor general to void their patents, if they will not mend their faults: by which means much money may be saved to the king. A few days since a letter was brought me from the king concerning some lands intended to be past to Mr. Guy; a copy whereof I herewith send you: there can be nothing done upon it, till the next term; and therefore there is no time lost in writing to you upon it. Though this letter be entered at the signet-office; yet it is not countersigned by you, as things relating to land and money usually are: I do not know therefore, but there may be a surprise; and that you may know nothing of it: now you have the letter before you, you will let me know your mind.

This is a very tatling town: and though I have lived long enough to be acquainted with rumours, which are sometimes the forerunners of truth, though commonly they

they are lies ; yet I cannot help hearing the talk of the town ; which usually is founded upon the publick news, letters from England. The last were filled with matters relating to this country : some said lord Tyrconnel was to be duke of Leinster, and marquis of Dublin ; for neither of which do I envy him : others say, that he is making haste hither to have a principal command in the army, and (which will put jealousies into men's minds, till they find the contrary) that he brings over thirty commissions with him for alterations in the army ; and that all the courts of justice are to be totally changed. All the answer I can give to those, who tell me these things, and who seem to believe them, is, that I knew nothing of them ; and that I do not believe them. And truly, I may say to you, I hope, they are not true. Nothing can more unsettle the king's affairs here, than to make the minds of men uneasy ; which nothing does more contribute to, than the putting men out of employment, who have done nothing to deserve it ; nay, who have ever behaved themselves well and loyally : it is a terrible thing to be whispered out of office. I am sure some men of unquestionable integrity have been ruined, out of particular animosities, or because others have had a mind to be in their places. I would fain hope, there were an end of that trade ; and that the king would not punish a man, till he knows that he deserves it. For all men in employment here, I am sure, I shall give the king the truest account I can get ; and will never conceal any thing from him : and when all is done, his majesty may put a man out of his service after he has heard all that can be said of him, as well as upon the first information ; which commonly comes from

from a prejudiced person. But I will still hope the best ; and, that the king will hear all sides. I would fain have orders to quiet men's minds, and that an end might be put to this accusing one another ; which will have a greater influence upon all sorts of busines, than perhaps some are aware of. It is a thousand pities, this country should not thrive : if we may but be let alone as we are, I dare undertake, (though that be a bold thing for me to say) that all should be as well, and in as good order here, as the king should desire ; his revenue should encrease very considerably ; and, before I have been here a year, I would shew him a plain and easy way, how to be kind to those, he has a mind to shew kindness to, and whose circumstances deserve it.

Sir Robert Colvill came to town on saturday last ; and the next day he came to me, full of professions of duty to the king. He told me, though he was not now in the king's service, yet he would always be a good subject ; and, if I would give him leave, when he returned into the country, he would give me a constant account of all things in those parts : which, you may believe, I accepted of. He dined the same day at my lady Clancarty's ; for that match goes on : and colonel Macarty frankly undertook, he should be a viscount. I have scarce ever known a man more variously spoken of, than this sir Robert. Some very good men give him a great character ; others, as good, shake their heads, and say, they know not what to think of his principles. All agree, that he has a great interest ; that is, a great estate. Some perhaps envy him for that ; and some hate him for the meanness of his birth : indeed, they say, he is come from a very

vile beginning. When I know more of him, I will give you a further account: you cannot expect, I should yet say any thing of him upon my own knowledge. Before I left London both my lord chancellor and lord treasurer of Scotland severally spoke to me of one David Mountgomery of Lanshagh; who, they said, had a small estate in this kingdom, as well as in Scotland; that he was in the rebellion with the late Argyle, and was outlawed in Scotland: therefore they wished, he could be found here. I have made all the enquiry I could after him since my arrival here; but could not gain any information of him, till since sir Robert Colvill's coming to town; who tells me, that this Mountgomery went into Scotland sometime before Argyle's landing there, and that he has not heard of his being in this kingdom since; that he lives in the same barony, where sir Robert himself lives; and that, upon that account, he is very well acquainted with him; that his estate in this kingdom is very small, and all a leasehold from my lord Mount Alexander: who (by the way) could give no information of him, though I spoke to him about it. Such as the estate is, you will find by the enclosed note; which is a copy of what sir Robert gave me: if you please to direct me, I will order this Mountgomery to be outlawed the next term; and so his estate may be seized. I have given my lord president an account of this particular; that I may tell all the good I hear of sir Robert, as well as the ill I have been informed of. You will see by my letter to my lord president another part of the history concerning the choosing of agents for England: they disown the long letter, I formerly sent you; and say, this (of which I here send you a copy) is
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the true letter, which was sent about. I thought fit to send it to my lord president, lest, when they know, (as I suppose they will do) that I sent the other, they may think, I do not deal fairly by them in not sending all; which, by the grace of god, no man living shall have cause to find fault with. The person, who gave me this letter, is a roman catholick and a very honest man. I asked him, how they came to leave out the names of some of the persons, who by the other letter were to approve of the agents, and commit the approbation of that choice only to one person? His answer was, that lord Clanrickard was against the thing, and would not meddle with it, nor have his name used; and that, in truth, most of the roman catholicks, who were discreet, were backward enough: but those of Leinster were too hot; and they were animated by lord Tyrconnel. But this person and another, whom I have known these 30 years, have assured me, that there shall be nothing done without my knowledge, and approbation too.

Mr. Nangle the lawyer, a roman catholick, and a man of the best repute for learning as well as honesty amongst that people, hath lately brought me the petition concerning the reversing the outlawries, (a copy of which I formerly sent you) and desired me to send it the king. I made him my objection, that, I thought, the parties concerned would sooner have the effects of it, if it were only in the names of the two first lords; and, if the king extended his favour to them, it would be a good precedent for others to beg the same bounty: whereas to make it a general case, would both give an alarm here, (which I thought not for the king's service) and possibly might

make his majesty take more time to consider of it, than he would do in particular cases. But the answer was ; we have considered of it ; and I beseech your excellency to recommend it to the king. I told him, I would, according to my promise, send whatever he gave me in his own words, and would offer my thoughts upon it to his majesty with as much advantage, as I could, to the parties concerned, as far as I was acquainted ; but I could not speak of persons, whom I did not know : he said, he could desire no more ; and so went away very well satisfied. I have sent the petition to my lord presidant, and you will see what I have said upon it ; of which you will give me your thoughts at leisure. Here are as great feuds and differences in opinions among the roman catholicks, as are any where ; and might be improved, if our court were in a fit temper for it : but, that not being, I enter not into the discourse, and seem not so much as to be informed of it. The great difference is about the king's supremacy ; which many do support. But enough ; god almighty keep you and yours.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Feb. 27. 168⁶.

SINCE I sent my other letters to the posthouse, I have received your lordship's of the 16th and 20th instant ; which I shall answer at large by the next. Having sent you so large a dispatch but very lately, I did not think to have added any thing more now ; but that it is fit to let your lordship know, that this afternoon sir Nicholas

cholas Armourer died here in town. I found him here ; and he has not been able since to undertake a journey. By his death the government of the fort at Kinsale is fallen into the king's hands ; as likewise a foot company in colonel Fairfax's regiment. Your lordship has by you a copy of the list, you gave me, of those persons, whom the king intended to provide for amongst the first ; and therefore I need not put your lordship in mind of them : but give me leave to mention my lord Brittas, or captain Butler (my lord Galmoy's brother) for the company. The first has great need of the king's bounty, being in very low circumstances : the other every body speaks well of ; and he has served well abroad. I think it my duty to lay before the king those persons, he seemed most inclined to prefer in the first place ; in which, I hope, I have not done amiss. I am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord T R E A S U R E R.

Dublin Castle, March 2. 168⁶.

IN my last I acknowledged the receipt of your's of the 18th past ; but had not then time to answer it, it being but newly arrived : and you will allow, that I might be a little weary after the long dispatches I had then made. I am very glad, you approved so well of all the papers, I sent you in my 8th letter. I have received a letter of the

20th

20th past from my lord president, in answer to what I writ to him on the 8th ; wherein I sent him the same papers : a copy of which letter I send you here enclosed. It is very short and pithy : a word to have told me, whether I had done ill or well, or how the king was satisfied, would have made it very sweet too. I need say nothing to what you write of the affairs of the revenue with reference to the good lord that is dead ; and I shall now within a few days lay before you such a method for the accounting, which, if approved of, will be safe both for the king and all who act under him : when you have it, you will supply the defects ; for nothing can be made so perfect, as not to need some amendments. Since you are so well pleased with my letters to my lord treasurer, I mean my publick letters, you shall have more of them ; and those letters shall contain all things relating to the revenue, except some particulars, which ought to be kept private between ourselves, till they are better digested.

As to what you mention concerning Mr. Muschamp, you will find what I have done in that affair, by the answer which I have returned to the lords of the council ; a copy whereof you have herewith : and, I hope, I have done nothing to deserve blame in that particular. Mr. Shaw, in his letter of the 20th past, gave me an account of your having carried Mr. Aubery to the king to succeed Mr. Kingdon, and that that matter was settled ; which I am very glad of, because, I hope, we are out of danger of his competitors. I am not acquainted with any of them, and therefore cannot be thought partial ; especially having no body to set up : but, upon my word, none of the three are well spoken of here ; not by any sort of people :

people : in plain terms, they are thought here (where they must needs be best known) not to be honest men, nor of integrity ; not to speak any thing of their abilities, which may be as well judged of any where as here. Mr. K— is a little blank to find, he mist of this employment ; and people here, even my lord primate and others, came to me upon the notice of the other's death, and pressed me to write into England on his behalf ; and at the same time went to him and told him, if his friends were kind to him, he could not fail of it : but I have satisfied him of your kindnes ; and then it is no matter, what others think. I am not a stranger to Mr. Aubery ; and he shall find me very kind to him : pray hasten him over ; for the number ought to be full upon the place. Poor Mr. Strong has been very ill this week past : he asked me leave to go into Munster for his health, which I could not refuse him ; for he is indeed a true drudge, and, I believe, wanted air : but the poor man went only one day's journey, and came back the next ; his looseness, which he is very subject to, having made him very weak : but yesterday he sent me word, he was very well, and had got the gout, which he never had before ; and which, it is hoped, may cure other diseases. On sunday I received your's of the 23d past ; and am sorry, you should have cause to suspect the intercepting our letters : I hope, there is no ground for it ; however, I send this under cover to Mr. Froud. I sent you Mr. Price's answer in mine of the 20th past : he brought it to me on the 17th, and told me then, he had the post before sent a copy of it to Mr. Shaw. You cannot imagine, what a shoal of Irishmen come upon the arrival of every packet to my secretary's office,

office, to enquire, what commissions are come over: and, when they are answered, none; they reply, that is strange; my lord Tyrconnel has written word, that thirty commissions are sent over for alterations in the army; and I have reason to enquire, says one; and I, says another. Methinks, my lord lieutenant should not be the last man, who is to know these things: and it were to be wished, that whatever is intended of this kind should be a secret, till the king's orders are sent to me. Nothing can go amiss here, but must proceed from the hotheadedness of violent and passionate men. For the English I can answer: not that I will pretend to be accountable for their honesty, but I will keep them in order; and every extravagant heat only, or idle talk, shall be questioned: but, I doubt, I must not do so to the others; though I will do my part, and yet not be liable to be found fault with, where I would not displease. I am afraid, the displacing so many men, as are now whispered about to be in danger, who have been always looked upon as honest men, and many of them have served well, and nothing now laid to their charge, will not be of service to the king: but god's will be done. Methinks the king should be weary of having so many of the Irish hanging about him: it would certainly be more easy for his majesty to send them home, and order them to make their application to the chief governour. The king fees, I faithfully transmit what any of them give me; and he might then do for them as he should think fit, without the perpetual importunity about him. While I am writing, I receive yours of the 25th past, and at the same time my lord president's: I confess, they did surprise me as to the laying aside

aside the chancellor ; but it is resolved, and so no reply must be made to it. Tomorrow I will acquaint the good man with it : no doubt he will have heard of it from other hands ; for several letters mention it. You will see, what I have writ to lord Sunderland : I hope, I have not said too much in the manner I have done it. I believe, my lord marquis of Athol will be troubled at this change, and with reason : for his cause, which has been many years depending both here and in Scotland, and has taken up 13 entire days in hearing it pleaded on both sides since the term, was finished on saturday last ; and yesterday the judges, who assisted, went their circuits : my lord chancellor had appointed the beginning of the next term to give judgment ; and, it is thought, it will go for my lord Athol : and now, I doubt, it must begin all anew. But this is a private matter : I pray god, these great and sudden changes do not prejudice the king's affairs. I might have added to lord Sunderland the news, which came from England in the letters of the 20th, which arrived here on friday ; that one of the judges is to be put out, and one Mr. Rice to be in his room. It were to be wished, that the king would enquire of those whom he entrusts with the government, concerning men, before they are removed : he may still do his pleasure ; and his affairs would suffer less. I have a great mind to write a little plain to lord Sunderland upon this head ; and tell him the particular reports of some of the Irish, without naming persons : but I would have your advice first ; and, I doubt, it is too late. God's will be done : heaven bleſſ you and yours. Mr. K — is very thankful to you for being ſo mindful of him ; and therefore, pray,

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send over the king's letter for making him vice-treasurer upon the terms you mention. The salary to sir John Temple, as I remember, was 20l. per annum; and I proposed it no otherwise: to be a privy counsellor into the bargain, I shall like as well as he.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, March 2. 168 $\frac{5}{6}$.

IN my last I acknowledged the receipt of your lordship's favours of the 16th and 20th of the last month: I come now to make particular answers to them. As to the first; I know of no suits whatsoever, that are against either Murtagh or Daniel Magennis: it is true, there is a difference between them and captain William Hamilton depending at the council-board, concerning tory-catching. Each has exhibited complaints against the other: answers, replies and rejoinders are put in on all sides; (copies of all which shall be sent over, if your lordship please to be troubled with them) and a commission taken out for examining witnesses on both sides. And if you will have my opinion by way of anticipation, when the cause comes to be heard, I believe, the contest will appear to be; who shall have the most credit in taking and killing tories. I know of no other suits either of the Magennises have whatsoever: when I hear of any vexation they or any others are like to have, by reason of having given informations against any disaffected persons, I will be sure to hinder any such. Both the Magennises have been several times with me; and, I verily believe, they will own, that

that I have done all in theirs affairs, which they desired me.

As to Dr. Manby, dean of Derry, with your lordship's leave I will tell you his story. On the 18th of january he came to me, (the first time I ever saw or heard of him in my life) and desired a licence to go for England. I told him, there were too many of the clergy of this kingdom there already ; that, in the few days I had been here, two others had been with me on the same errand ; but I had refused them both, as I should do him, except he could give me very good reasons why he desired to go ; his majesty expecting, that his clergy of this kingdom should reside upon their cures. He then told me, he had a suit at law at Londonderry, and desired to go into England to advise about it. I said, it was very strange for a man to go into England to take advice about a suit at law in Ireland ; that, I doubted, it was in truth to avoid a suit of law here : to which he replied ; that he saw, ill offices had been done. I assured him, he was mistaken ; for no body had done him ill or good offices ; which was most true, I having never heard of him till that moment : and so he went away, without saying any thing else ; or telling me, what, or with whom, his suit was. I have never seen him since, till sunday the 21st past ; when he came to me early in the morning, and told me ; he was undone, if I did not help him. I asked him, what was the matter : he said, he would now tell me truly, what his suit of law was. He said, he had informed upon oath against one Mr. Norman of Londonderry of very horrible words spoken against his majesty, when duke ; that the government had bound him over to prosecute the said

Norman at the next assizes ; and that he was sure, all that country was so ill affected, that no jury would be got to find Norman guilty. I asked him, if he were ready on his part to prosecute : he said, he had none but his own evidence. I told him, that would be enough in case of misdemeanor ; and I would take care, the judges should be well instructed, and a loyal jury should be found. He then told me in plain terms, he would not go down to Londonderry ; but earnestly pressed me, to order Mr. attorney general to enter a Noli prosequi. I wished him to have a motion made in court, upon what suggestions he thought fit, to put off the trial : to which he said, he never meant to prosecute the matter : now Norman was out of the commission of the peace, he had his end. I told him, that was not enough : if he had spoken so ill words as he pretended, Norman ought to suffer a greater punishment, than being put out of the commission of the peace. At last he told me, he could not go to the assizes without hazard of his life ; for going 10 miles in a coach put him into fits of the stone and strangury ; to which I told him, it was above 10 miles from Holyhead to London : to that he made no reply. If he does not appear at the assizes, he will suffer nothing but the forfeiting his recognizance ; which shall not be estreated without his majesty's pleasure signified by your lordship. I have not thought fit to direct a Noli prosequi : if I had, I am certain, the first news would have been, that he was ready to prosecute ; but that my lord lieutenant would not suffer him, and had caused a Noli prosequi to be entered ; whereby a fanatick was kept from justice. I could entertain your lordship with a great deal

deal more of this dean; how, in the two times he was with me, I catched him in several lies; but I think, I have been too tedious already. This dean told me, he was engaged to go to King's County at the assizes to prosecute another person there, for words likewise some years since spoken against his majesty. When he returns, he shall have leave to go into England, if he desires it, as your lordship directs. I never met with any man, who has a worse character than this dean; which I am very sorry for because of his coat. When he went out from me, the company in the next room wondered, why I would be in private with such a fellow: but in truth, my lord, I was not alone with him; nor would willingly be with any such creatures. The clergy here of the country are too much given to ramble; and therefore, I think, I cannot do better than to keep them to strict residence, according to my 2d instruction: and yet, by the grace of god, no man shall be hindered from his going upon his necessary occasions, if he makes them appear to be so. As soon as the trial at Londonderry is over, or whatever the success is, your lordship shall not fail of an account of it.

To your lordship's of the 20th past I have nothing to reply, but that I send you enclosed an account of the sheriffs; and such a one as, I doubt not, will prove true. My lord, I took as much care in making these sheriffs, as I could do of any thing for my life. Your lordship knows, that it was impossible for me to know people personally at that time myself: nor did I tie myself to the informations of any one man; but made it my busines to be inquisitive of all people, whom I knew and might trust.

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If the person, who gave in those objections to the sheriffs, sent them from hence; if he had made me acquainted with them, he would then have seen, whether I had not hearkened to his representation: for, I do assure your lordship, (and, I do believe, no body will say the contrary) I was very ready to receive advice from any body; and I will venture to say, it is the best set of sheriffs that has been for these many years, both for loyalty, prudence and impartiality; as I doubt not will appear before the year is out; which will be within a little more than six months. And, if I have the honour to be here then, I shall know men myself, and be able to give a good account of them upon my own knowledge; and, I hope, I have done nothing amiss in making these.

I have just now received your lordship's of the 25th past; wherein you are pleased to acquaint me with the king's intention of giving my lord chancellor his ease. I will tomorrow impart it to his grace, in the best manner I can; who, I doubt not, will receive his majesty's pleasure with that submission he ought; though, I fear, likewise with a due mortification, lest he should be in his majesty's displeasure; which, I hope, he is not. I beg your lordship's leave to acquaint you upon this occasion, that the news of laying my lord chancellor aside, and of Mr. Porter's being nominated for his successor, was written hither from England above a fortnight since; and wagers offered to be laid of the truth of it. I told them who asked me of it, that I knew nothing of it; and that, I am sure, was true. In a letter of the 25th, from London to a person of quality here, I saw this expression — Last night, at the cabinet-council, it was resolved, that
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my lord chancellor of Ireland shall be presently laid aside: who shall succeed him, is kept very secret. Now I am telling your lordship news from England, give me leave to tell you, that, upon the coming of these last 3 or 4 packets from England, numbers of people have flocked down to my secretary's office and enquired, what commissions were come over: and when they were told none; they have seemed to wonder, and said, their friends sent them word, that 30 commissions are sent over for alterations in the army here. I have reason to expect a command, says one; and I, says another. I only tell your lordship these stories, (who know, what truth there is in them, better than I do) that you may judge, whether it be fit, that they should be thus talked of, before they are sent over. I find two gentlemen, sir Charles Fielding and sir George St. George, extremely troubled with the alarm, they receive, of their being to be removed. The first is told, he will not be a loser: but, I am sure, he had rather be in the post he is, than in any station in the army. He is certainly as loyal, as any man can be; and is come to the command he is in from an ensign. The other has served ever since the king's restoration; is known to be a brave man, and as good an officer as any in the army, by all, who know Ireland: he's a fine gentleman; and I am confident, if he had the honour to be known to the king, his majesty would be gracious to him. His brother, sir Oliver, however unfortunate he has been in the representations that have been made of him, was one of the few men, who engaged for the king in this kingdom before the duke of Albemarle thought of it; and when it would have cost him his life, if it had been discovered.

covered. They are a numerous family here in this kingdom, very well allied, and able to serve the king as well as willing. I beg your lordship's pardon for troubling you thus much in these matters. I know, you are so generous, as to delight in doing good offices to worthy men : and I am sure, you will forgive him, who is with all possible esteem and respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the KING.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, March 2. 168^½.

I HAVE received the honour your majesty vouchsafed to do me on the 18th of the last month, and am very glad your majesty has my lord Clanrickard in your thoughts ; which I shall send him word of : and, I know, it will be a great comfort to him. As to what your majesty is pleased to tell me of the bishop of Meath's sermon before me ; it was, as I remember, the third sunday after my being here : he is a very dull preacher ; which may make me, as well as others, not to have minded him so much, as we ought to do what is said in that place. But, I confess, I minded enough to think, that he said more than he ought to do : and therefore, as soon as I came home, that very day I took notice of it to my lord primate, and the arch-bishop of Dublin ; who both assured me, that they did, upon your first coming to the crown,

crown, exhort all their clergy not to meddle with controversy, nor politicks: and I find by my other conversation, that it is true, they did so, and do continue so to do upon all occasions. The next day I sent for the bishop of Meath to me: I told him my mind; which he promised to observe for the future. I have likewise given the same charge to the rest of the bishops, as I see them; and to all other clergymen, as they come in my way; and done so ever since my being here. And as I shall always do so, when any indiscreet sermons are made before me; so I shall likewise take notice very severely of any of the clergy, who preach such sermons in other places, if I have any notice of it; as I did about 3 weeks since, having an account of a foolish sermon that had been then preached in the city. But, after all this, I cannot answer, but some impertinent things will be said, sometimes even before me: in all such cases, I do assure your majesty, those men shall never pass unreprieved by me. As, very lately, a young man preaching before me was indeed very impertinent; not so much in relation to your majesty, as in taking notice of the king of France's proceedings towards the huguenots: though, I know, your majesty does not approve of those proceedings; yet what has any preacher to do to enquire into the actions of any prince, though not his own? I therefore sent for him the next morning, and gave him a rebuke. I trouble your majesty with this story to shew you, that no care of mine shall be wanting to hinder all things, that I think will displease you; but especially those things, in which I know your mind; as I do in this concerning the preaching. And I beseech your majesty to believe, that no man shall commit these

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follies twice before me; nor any where else, which I have information of: and though the inferiour clergy in most places are unruly, and not so apt to take advice, as to give it; yet I dare undertake to keep ours here within the bounds of duty and good manners.

I beg leave to acquaint your majesty upon this occasion, that the clergy of this city are generally worthy men, of learning and good lives; and several of them do preach very well, and as they ought to do. I am very sorry, when any of those, who pretend to be of the church of England, do any thing to displease your majesty; because our principle is loyalty and obedience; and generally all of our church have practised both. For my own part, as I study nothing so much myself, as my duty to your majesty; so it shall be my busines to make all others, whom you are pleased to put under me, do their's. I will never willingly offend you, while I live; I will never conceal any thing from you; and will always tell you truth, though it were to my prejudice: which, I hope, is the best way to shew, that I am with all devotion,

May it please Your Majesty,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,
CLARENDON.

To Colonel Macarty.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, March 2. 168 $\frac{1}{2}$.

THIS is to thank you for your favour of the 25th past; which is this very minute come to my hands.

I am

HENRY EARL OF CLARENDON. 99

I am very glad to find by it, that what I proposed for his majesty's service was thought reasonable by my lord president: I am sure, I shall never have any thing in my aim but the king's service and interest to the best of my understanding; which will always be submitted to better judgments. There are, as you mention, rumours of great changes to be here, and several letters in the 3 last packets from England speak of them, but none to me; by which I suppose, they were not then resolved. As to your pretensions, I am so far from being against them, that I should be ready to the utmost of my power to advance them; and, if justice be done me, you will find, that my lord president and my lord treasurer will both own, that I mentioned your concerns to them: though, I knew, it was not needful so to do to either of them, but only, that you might see, how ready I should be to take all opportunities of expressing my service to you. Your lieutenant Fitz-Gerald has made good his undertaking, and brought in his namesake, and the two other tories into prison at Cork. I have nothing further to give you an account of; but shall be always glad of an occasion to shew you, that I am, as much as any friend you have, and with very great esteem,

Sir,

Your most affectionate humble servant,
CLARENDON. C. P. S.

N 2

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, March 9. 1685.

ON thursday last I acquainted my lord chancellor here with the king's pleasure to give him his ease, and with the kind concern you had expressed towards him ; of which, you will find, how sensible he is, in a letter he hath written to you himself. I did not intend to have broken this matter to the good man so soon : but finding so many letters from England speak of the change, that was to be made ; five or six whereof I saw myself ; and some mentioning, that the king had directed my lord lieutenant to be acquainted with his pleasure in that particular by the post ; I thought it best to make no longer delay in telling him of it. He received the signification of his majesty's pleasure, like a wise man, with great submission, and without shewing the least surprise or dissatisfaction. He told me, he had several times had thoughts of making it his request to give up the seal ; but then again he thought, it would not have looked well in him to have quitted (as it were) the service, whilst the king appeared to be in any difficulties ; as, god knows, he was under too many of late years : that he had made it the whole business of his life to serve the crown, and would continue so to do, though he were only a private curate ; and that he did most cheerfully acquiesce in his majesty's good pleasure : but that it would be a very great mortification to him, if he thought the king were any ways dissatisfied with him ; and the rather, because, he says, he can give many instances of particular graces, which

which he has upon many occasions received from his present majesty, and never yet found, that he was in the least under his displeasure. Indeed I hope, care will be taken to let the good man know, that the king is not displeased with him; however convenient he may think it to his service to make the present change. I will not enter into this good man's particular failings: no man is perfect; but every body here, who is acquainted with the affairs of this country, must own him to be an able man, and to have done the crown good service in the worst of times. As he is a man of a very good estate; so I have been here long enough to find, that he has a very considerable interest upon that account, separate from any dependants upon the score of his great office; and is a man very well beloved. For his successor, you and I know him, and his talent every way: therefore I will say nothing of him, but this, that he will be mistaken, if he thinks to make his fortune by the employment. The king's allowance upon the establishment is 1000l. per annum; and the office does not bring in besides, above six, or, at most, seven hundred pounds per annum: which is no great matter for a man, who has but a very small estate of his own, considering the figure he ought to make. The primate lives as nobly, and as much like a gentleman throughout, as ever I knew any man in my life. But the change is resolved; and there is an end. This, with the reports from England of the many changes, that are to be in the army, makes the Irish very foolish in setting out the mighty power of lord Tyrconnel: for it is most certain, before he went hence, he did openly brag, what alterations should be made, both civil and military.

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By his discourses one would have thought, that he had the absolute dominion to get the king to do whatever he proposed. As to the chancellor, one day lord T—— dis-coursing with some of his friends, and railing at the chancellor, (which, it seems, he gives himself a great liberty of doing against any one, he does not like) a gentleman in the company, a roman catholick, said, my lord, what can you say against him? He carries himself well in his office ; and, when any of us Irish come before him in his court, we find justice, with dispatch : to which lord T —— replied, that is true ; but that is his craft, to be civil to us ; but I know, he does not love our country-men, the natives ; and, by god, I will have him out, you shall see : to which the other said, I doubt, my lord, this way will not serve the king. To tell stories, that go up and down here of lord Tyrconnel's behaviour in this kingdom, the insolence he shewed to some, the courtship he made to others, and the contempt he used most people with, would make one who knows him wonder : certainly he's a man of monstrous vanity, as well as pride and furious passion. But, as I cannot sometimes avoid hearing extravagant stories of him, I do assure you, I make no reflection upon them ; and never mention his name, but when occasionally discourses bring it in : nor shall there ever any thing be laid to my charge upon the account of my ill conduct towards him, whether present or absent.

There is one particular, which I think proper enough to mention in a private letter. Here is one Boswood, sub-collector of the port of Dublin, under Mr. Genew, who, upon the account of his health, hath by leave been absent

fent near a year. This Boswood does all the busines ; and is indeed, by all that appears to me, and by the character the commissioners of the revenue give of him, a very honest and diligent man : he was a great friend of Mr. Kingdon's, and brought in by him ; and for that reason is like to suffer. A bill of exchange for 300l was drawn by Mr. Kingdon upon a merchant here, some weeks before his death : the merchant would not accept it ; which Boswood hearing, to do honour to his friend he pays the bill ; which being done voluntarily, without any orders from Mr. Kingdon, he despairs of ever recovering that money, except the king will allow Mr. Kingdon the quarter's salary, which would have been due at lady-day next : that sum will make the poor man but a little loser : you know best, what is fit to be done in this matter. I have discharged myself in making the request ; and, if you would have me do it in a publick letter to my lord treasurer, it shall be done upon your signification. We have had no letters from England, since those of the 25th past ; which makes me have the less to say from hence : though still, methinks, I make a shift to make my letters to you long enough. I thank god, I have almost made an end of the tories ; in which captain Boyle hath done very good service : he is a very brisk man, and minds his busines. I am now making a full dispatch to you in answer to several directions, I had from the treasury chamber, which I could not complete sooner, by reason of the term ; when the king's council were not so much at leisure, as they are now. But, I doubt not, you will be very well satisfied, when you have my letter ; which will be within a very few days. God almighty keep you and all yours.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, March 9. 168 $\frac{1}{2}$.

IN obedience to the commands I received from your lordship, I have acquainted my lord chancellor here with the king's pleasure in reference to him; which he received with all possible submission; and desired me to acquaint his majesty, that, as he had made it the business of his life to serve the crown, so he should continue to serve the king to his death, to the utmost of his power, with the same zeal, though he were only a private curate: that there is but one thing, that can trouble him; which is the apprehension of being in his majesty's displeasure; which would be a very great mortification to him; and the rather, because, he says, he has received many instances of his present majesty's favour, as well as of the late king's; and he never heard, that his majesty was dissatisfied with him. I suppose, your lordship will put such expressions into the letter, which will come by Mr. Porter for the delivery of the seal to him, (for, I think, that is the form usually observed in such cases) as may be a comfort to the old gentleman after so many years service. He has a very good interest; which, I dare undertake, he will always employ, as he shall be directed for the king's service.

We have no letters from England since those of the 25th past; which will make your present trouble the shorter, having no commands from you to give you an account of. Finding in some of the late letters from England, that the king has appointed a good part of his army
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to encamp this summer upon Hounslow Heath. I beg your lordship, that I may know his majesty's pleasure, if he will have his army here encamp likewise; which will certainly do the troops good. If the king's pleasure be, that they do encamp; I shall desire to have particular directions, whether the whole army, or what numbers of them, and at what time; and how long they should continue together. I should humbly offer, that june would be the best time for them to meet: several things are to be thought of in order to the encamping; but the most necessary thing is the providing of tents for the soldiers. I have presumed to send your lordship here enclosed an estimate of the charge for making tents; which, I believe, your lordship will find much cheaper, than they can be afforded in England; besides that the freight and the exchange of the money will be saved. It being matter of money, I have sent a copy of the estimate to my lord treasurer. I would beg to know the king's pleasure in this particular as soon as your lordship pleaseth, that things may be put in hand, if his majesty will have the army encamp this summer. I have nothing to trouble your lordship with further at present, but to beg the continuance of your lordship's friendship, and to assure you, that I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

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To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, March 14. 168⁵.

SINCE my last I have received your's of the 2d instant; and at the same time had letters of the 4th likewise. I am very glad, you were so well satisfied with Mr. Price's answer to the charge against him: I think it very sufficient to satisfy any reasonable people, who are not possessed with prejudice against a man. Not long since my lord chief justice Keyting asked my lord Langford, sitting with him, whether he knew, what my lord T— had done about the charge, which he carried over with him against Mr. Price. My lord L— answered, he never heard of any such thing: yes, says the lord chief justice, lord T— shewed it me, and said, W. Ellis had drawn it; and he desired my opinion upon it: to which the lord chief justice replied; my lord, I cannot give an opinion in it, till I speak with Price: for possibly he may make very justifiable answers to many of these particulars. To which lord T— answered, by god I will accuse him, when I come into England; and will have him out. When lord L— told me this, he told me at the same time, that he found the lord chief justice was become a perfect creature of lord T—; which he, lord L—, thought very ungrateful in him, considering who raised him. I am extremely sorry to find by your letter, that you were not then well: I pray god send you long life, and health; without which there can be no comfort in this life. For the news, which our last letters brought us out of England, I refer you to my letter to my lord Sunderland; which I send open to you,

you, that you may read it: and if you do not approve of what I have written both to him and to the king, pray burn both the letters: if you do think them fit to go to their hands; then you will seal them with a head, or a seal of your arms before you had the garter; and let them be delivered, as if you thought they were put up by chance in your packet. I likewise send you a copy of the last letter I had from my lord Sunderland, that you may see all. Truly I thought, considering all circumstances, that it became me so say something, that it may appear, I did my duty in representing the true state of things, as well as in obeying: and, I hope, I have written nothing amiss, but with all possible duty and submission. And, when all is done, do what you think fit with the letters. Certainly I am very impertinent, or else the frequent long letters, I trouble my lord president with, might deserve some other kind of answers. It is impossible to tell you the wonderful damp has been upon men's minds for about a fortnight, occasioned by the hot alarms out of England of changes and alterations, that are to be here. I know two men, (not in wanting conditions) who, since the time I speak of, have sold considerable parcels of their estates, and remitted the money into England: others, who are traders, talk of calling in their stocks and withdrawing themselves. Very little business has been done this last week upon the exchange: but men look dejectedly one upon another. I know all this is unreasonable: and, as nothing the king does ought to disturb men's minds, so, in truth, no alterations, that can be made, can have that influence upon the affairs of the nation, as these jealous apprehensions do suggest; for men are secured in

their properties, and their religion too, by very good laws. And, whatever officers are put into the army, or judges upon the benches, right will still be done; and oppreſſions will not be permitted, when complained of: as they will quickly be; for real grievances cannot be long concealed. I have got some acquaintance with some conſiderable men of this city: I ſend for them; and this is the language I talk to them in; which, I know, is my duty: and that, by the grace of god, I will never fail in to my utmoſt. But all men are not reasonable; and there is no curing a general jealousy otherwife, than to let time ſhew men, that there was no caufe for their apprehenſions: as in truth, I hope, there will not be. However I am really afraid, that these fancies, (to call them no other) which men have taken up, will have an ill influence upon the revenue: but it is too early to ſpeak of that yet, to any body, but yourſelf. If there muſt be roman catholick officers in the army, and judges of the ſame religion; it were to be wished, they were Englishmen, ſent out of England; and not Irish, who have all their intereſt here; not to ſay any more of them. And the king himſelf ſeemed to me to be of that opinion, that the great contention here was more between English and Irish, than between catholick and protestant; which certainly was a true notion: and therefore one would wonder the more at what is doing. Nothing, in my opinion, is more for the king's ſervice, in order to the ſettling the minds of his ſubjects here, than the letting them think themſelves ſecure in their properties: which nothing could more effectually compafs, than another commission of grace, in the ſame manner as the laſt was; which ended by the death

death of the late king. I do not speak this rashly ; nor can I have any interest in it : but purely for the king's service. A confirmation to men of their estates from his present majesty would be a security beyond doubt : and, though the commission were not to compel people to come in ; yet, I dare say, there is not a man in Ireland, even Irish as well as English, (and the first are very many) who would not come in. Most certainly it would raise a great sum of money ; for I have some reason to believe, that men would give money for a confirmation of their estates, to which they have a legal title, as well as for what may be defective. Pray, think of this ; and, if you are satisfied, propose it where you think proper. I verily believe, the talking that such a thing would be (if it may be talked of) would do a great deal of good here ; and fill men's minds with something else, than their melancholly apprehensions. But it were to be wished then, that the commissioners might be English : the money, which would arise hereby, would abundantly enable the king to gratify the Irish, to what degree he thought fit. I do fully agree with you in what you recommend to me concerning sir Ch. Porter ; and you may be most confident, though I did not know him, my conduct shall never be found fault with towards any one, whom the king employs in any station.

The common news letters, which come from England, and which very often contain very scurvy things, have ever since July last been printed here ; one of the latest is here enclosed : and these run about the kingdom, as if they were published by authority. And therefore, by order of council, I have caused the prohibiting any books

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or pamphlets whatsoever to be printed, without licence from proper persons thereto appointed ; which, I hope, will not be found fault with. God keep you and yours.

You will allow me to be inquisitive after the success of Mr. Price's answer : what satisfaction it gives to the king ; and what the accuser says to it. I leave it to you ; whether you will put my letter to the king in my lord Sunderland's cover, or deliver it yourself to his majesty. I think, I have said nothing in either of the letters but what becomes me, and yet with duty and submission.

To the KING.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, March 14. 168^s.

I HAVE presumed, upon some late news from England, to write at large to my lord president ; to which I humbly beg your majesty's favourable construction, when you read it. I have said nothing, but what I thought my duty in reference to your majesty's service, that you may be fully informed of the true state of things ; especially of matter of fact : and, when I have done that, all your commands shall be as punctually obeyed by me, as by any one. When I had the honour to discourse with your majesty upon the affairs of this country, you were pleased to say, that you looked upon the differences here to be rather between English and Irish, than between catholick and protestant ; which certainly, Sir, is a most true notion. And, upon that account, if I might presume to offer my humble advice to your majesty, (which I will never do in any thing, but as if it were for my life) it should

HENRY EARL OF CLARENDRON. 111

should be, that, whatever officers, military or civil, you shall think fit to employ in this kingdom of the roman catholick religion, (for the present at least) might be Englishmen from England. I know, I ought to say this to none but your majesty ; nor do I : and to you I offer it, Sir, with all possible submission, without any disrespect to those very worthy persons, who are of this country, as a thing, that would be extremely for your service. I do most humbly beg your majesty's pardon for what I have presumed to say in this letter, and in my lord president's. Nothing in either, I hope, can displease you : I am sure, I make it the business of my life to serve you, to the best of my understanding ; and will always obey you, as becomes,

Sir,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,
CLARENDRON.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, March 14. 168 $\frac{5}{6}$.

ON thursday last arrived here 3 packets from England ; among which I had the favour of your lordship's of the 3d instant : for the kindness of which I give you my humble thanks ; and hope, I shall never deserve other from you. By the last expression of your letter you put me in expectation of speedily receiving orders from you upon several subjects. I have in some of my late letters entertained your lordship with news from England : and,

and, though I am no great believer of common reports, yet when some of them, and of no small importance, prove true, one cannot help hearkening something to them ; and upon that account I take the liberty to acquaint your lordship, that the last letters from England have filled the town with great changes, that are to be here, not only in the army, but likewise amongst the judges. Several letters to people here I have seen : some say thus — You will have great alterations in the army of Ireland ; many officers put out, and new one's put in : I have seen the commissions signed at the secretary's office ; but cannot say, how many there are. And so names several to be put out ; many of whom are very good men, I must needs say ; and, I am verily persuaded, would not be displaced, if the king were rightly informed of their persons and merits. Other letters mention several of the judges to be removed, and say, they believe it, because such have told it them ; and they name for their authors persons eminent about his majesty. The persons, named to be removed, are sir Rich. Reynolds, justice Johnson, and sir Stand. Harstowne : those said to succeed them are Mr. Rice, Mr. Nangle, and Mr. Nugent. I beg leave to observe to your lordship, that I am required, by the 4th instruction, to enquire into the behaviour of the judges and ministers of the several courts of judicature ; and, if your lordship considers the time of my being here, I hope, I shall not be accounted negligent for not having given an account thereof hitherto. My lord, I have not been backward in my enquiries, nor in my observations ; and I do not doubt, but, at their return from their circuits, shall be able to make such a representation of them, as I shall

shall not be ashamed to justify, be it in their favour, or to their prejudice. I have very little acquaintance with any of the men ; and I am sure, I can have no temptation to inform any thing but the truth of every one.

My lord, I am directed by my 30th instruction to give my opinion concerning the putting the roman catholicks into the offices of sheriffs and justices of the peace, &c. as they have been heretofore. I have not been without thoughts upon this matter : but still, considering how short a time I have been here, I hope, it will not be wondered, that I have not thought fit to give a rash judgment in a matter of that importance. For, in truth, I did desire to advise with men of different persuasions ; which is the best way to form the most impartial opinion : and it would not have been long before I should have laid such an one before your lordship, as I would have stood by ; whatever it had been. But, since I am not ready yet for that, however, that I may not be blamed for not laying before his majesty the matter of fact, as it stands, I beg leave to refer your lordship to the statute made in the second year of the queen, chapter the first ; which directs, that all civil and temporal officers, as well as ecclesiastical, shall take the oath of supremacy. I will not take upon me to deliver an opinion upon this law ; but leave it to the more skilful. It cannot be denied, but that, before the rebellion, several roman catholicks (but generally those of the English pale) were sheriffs, and in the commission of peace ; but I am assured, that all the commissions (and some I have seen) required the oath to be administered : how it was connived at, I know not ; for the returns do not appear. I am likewise credibly informed,

formed, that there never was, since the making of that statute, any roman catholick a judge in any of the courts of judicature. I have thought fit, according to my duty, through your lordship's hands to lay this whole matter thus before his majesty, with all possible submission; for which, I hope, he will not be offended. The king is the best judge of all his affairs: and when he is thoroughly informed of things, he shall find as ready an obedience from me, as from any one. My lord, I shall be able to do the king more or less service here, according to the credit and countenance the world finds I have from his majesty. If these great changes, both military and civil, are true; how very little must it make me (which is not to be valued, if my being so in this station did not influence the king's affairs) to know of nothing, but by letters to other people, or common news letters. Certainly it would not be to the prejudice of the king's service to have the cheif governour a little consulted with; especially, since whatever characters or representations I make of things or persons, the king is only thereby the more fully informed of all particulars, and may still do what he pleafeth. And since his majesty knows, that I will, as well as must obey him; let me beseech your lordship, upon whose favour and friendship I have so much reason to depend, that you will be pleased a little to consider the 22d, 23d, and 28th of my instructions; the observation of which would make me more capable to serve the king; and not put any thing less in his majesty's power, (which god forbid it should do) nor more in mine.

Having in mine of the 2d instant mentioned sir Charles Feilding to your lordship, I should not have said any thing

thing more of him, but that he has acquainted me, that he had a letter by the last packet from a friend of his at London ; which tells him, that he is certainly to be removed, and to have colonel Russell's regiment. Sir Charles has earnestly desired me to represent his case to the king ; which I beg leave to do by your lordship, and humbly to beseech his majesty, that he may be continued as he is. He says, the being removed from the station he is in to a regiment is not a preferment to him. Indeed he is a very good man, and has always served the king well : I do heartily wish, the king may think fit to gratify him in this his request. I do beg your lordship's pardon for the great trouble I have given you in this letter ; but it is according to the freedom your lordship gave me leave to use towards you ; which I will endeavour to deserve by all the testimonies, that can be given, of respect, by,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord T R E A S U R E R.

Dublin Castle, March 16. 168 $\frac{1}{2}$.

WE have no letters from England since my last, by reason of the very high and contrary winds ; but the Irishmen at the coffee-houses do every day produce new letters from England, from great people at court, confirming all the changes I mentioned in my last, and adding much more to the greatness of lord T——, and

with what large powers he comes endowed : which to sober men seems very ridiculous ; though the young lord Dungan, and others of quality (of that nation) vouch and publish the reports. I know not what to think of them ; but I have no mind to believe that the king, after the gracious manner of his sending me hither, and the very many most generous and obliging expressions he was pleased to make to me, will put a disgrace or mortification upon me, by giving any man a power intrenching upon what he has been before pleased to grant to me ; and I hope, my friends there will not think it unreasonable to appear for me in that point, since it is but what every man would expect for himself in the like case.

I writ to you in my 13th of the 9th instant in the behalf of Boswood the sub-collector of this port ; who, by the death of his principal Mr. Genew, and Mr. Kingdon together, is like to be undone. It is said likewise here, that Mr. Bridges the commissioner is like to smart by Kingdon's death : but that will not concern the king. Bridges was, I am told, brought into the employment by Kingdon ; and so was the collector Henry Genew. These three, when all here, drove a subtle trade ; and Mr. Genew constantly made use of 2000l. a quarter of the king's money ; which the commissioners of the revenue (though some of them suspected it) could not detect : but now, upon the death of Genew, Boswood has laid open the whole commerce to me, by shewing me the original accounts of cash between him and Genew, and between him and Kingdon ; all which was taken out of the king's cash. Upon the whole, I find Henry Genew is indebted to Boswood, by account stated the 25th of December last, the

the sum of 556l. 8s. 6d; and that Mr. Kingdon is indebted likewise to the said Boswood the sum of 386l. 14s. 10d: so that they both together owe Boswood 943l. 3s. 4d; which sum Boswood owes to the king's cash. Boswood excuses himself for making use of the king's money by saying, that he was servant to Mr. Genew, and was to do as he directed him; Genew being the person, who was accountable to the king. For his making use of the king's money to answer Mr. Kingdon's occasions, he can say less; but only that he thinks, Mr. Genew's verbal directions to him, to answer what Mr. Kingdon should draw upon him, will justify him. Upon this occasion Boswood shewed me a letter he had from Genew dated the 1st of September last; I read the original and send you a copy of it for the extraordinariness, that you may see the distrust Genew then had of Kingdon; and yet, after all this, that Boswood should pay 700l. for Kingdon, upon bills that were not drawn upon him, as I am satisfied he has done, is very strange. Upon the whole Boswood did owe the king on Saturday night last, the 13th of this instant March, the sum of 943l. 3s. 4d; which sum Genew's security must make good, they being to answer for all that was done in Genew's time; and the news of his death came not hither till the 10th instant. Henry Genew's security to the king are his brother and Mr. Bridges, who are in London: if you please to send to them (the latter is likewise one of Kingdon's executors) to pay in the said 943l. 3s. 4d. the king will not lose a farthing. I believe, they will not much dispute it, having 2000l. security from Boswood, which he gave Mr. Genew; from whom they may recover what money they pay for Boswood: whereas

whereas the king ought to seek his money of none but Genew's security. Lest Boswood's being thus much in the king's debt should reflect on me ; I think myself obliged to give you an account of the care, I have endeavoured to take. From my first arrival here, I have never failed to spend one afternoon in the week with the commissioners and other officers of the revenue, and very many times oftner, as I have thought there has been occasion : I have not contented myself with the accounts they gave me, and with Mr. Price's weekly abstract, which I constantly transmit to you ; and whereby you see whence the money comes, which he has in that week received : but I cause an account to be brought to me of the produce of every branch of the revenue of the port of Dublin within that week ; by which I see, what the collector has received, and what is unpaid, either by bonds from merchants according to the statute, or in arrear in the hands of the retailing brewers. The bonds I see myself ; and I caused an enquiry to be made, about a fortnight since, whether all the brewers are really in arrear as much as is set upon them ; so that, whilst I continue this course, it is impossible that the collector can have any money in his hands : and, I am sure, I will continue this method, as long as I am here. You will then wonder, how Boswood could cover or conceal such a sum as he now proves to owe. Why truly, I can only say, that he robbed Peter to pay Paul : he was a man of a very honest reputation. Mr. Strong has trusted him with his quarter's salary two months at a time, till he had occasion to use it : many of the other officers of the port, at the quarter's end, give him acquittances for their salaries, and

and leave their money in his hands to the value of 5 or 600l, and call for it by 5l. or 10l. at a time: by these moneys he would make up his weekly payments of the produce to the receiver general, and pay his creditors out of the produce of the following week, as they called for any little sums. This is a tedious discourse; but I know not how to make it shorter, that you may be as fully informed as I would have you in this and all other particulars relating to the revenue; which I will very shortly have in that method, that I will know by the 20th of every month, what was in cash in each collector's hands, and what in arrear, and upon whom, the last day of the preceding month. The bonds from merchants upon the imported excise I found here lodged in the collector Boswood's hands; which I did not think proper: they are made payable to Mr. Price, at three months, according to the statute; and, as all money ought immediately to be paid to the receiver general, I have therefore ordered the bonds to be put into his hands as cash; and he shall give me an account weekly of what he receives from them, as of his other receipts. I keep a list of the bonds likewise by me; whereby I see the time when any of them become due, and so can make my enquiries accordingly. It would be better for the king, if the merchants would pay down all their money, and take an abatement of 10l. per cent. for their yearly payment, as the statute allows: but most of the eminent dealers here are only factors, and are not so well provided with ready money; but their bonds are good, and the king will have no loss, if they are duly called upon; as, I am sure, they have been, since I have been here. I thought it better to put
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all this that I have said into my private letter ; because no body reads those letters, but such as you have a mind to : when you have it, you may make what use you think fit of what I write. Here daily (that is, very often) come in odd books from foreign parts, from France : they are of course stopped at the custom-house ; and I order them there to be kept. You will see what I have written to my lord president upon that subject ; which, I hope, is not amiss. I do not send him any of the books ; which may be done, as he shall appoint : but I send you one of each ; and I wish, you would direct your chaplain, or somebody, to give you an account of them ; and then you will be able to tell me, whether I have done well in stopping them, and justify me there in so doing, if you hear it spoken of. "Pax vobis" was seized about 10 days since : the two other little ones but yesterday. God keep you and all yours &c.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, March 16. 1685.

WHENEVER any packet comes from England, there come with it several news letters, such as are sent up and down in London to coffee-houses ; in which, your lordship knows, there are very often ill things written, and most commonly very foolish stories told ; and, for the most part, lies. These are presently printed here, and so dispersed about the kingdom ; and are thought to be published by authority. This has been the practice ever since june or july last : whereupon I have thought fit,

fit, by order of council to forbid the printing of any books or pamphlets whatsoever, without licence from the proper persons ; in which I hope to have your lordship's approbation. Here come very often books out of France ; which ought not to be given out of the king's warehouse, till first examined by the arch-bishop's chaplain. I have directed no notice to be taken of breviaries, or hours of prayer, or such books as are for peoples devotion. But, for books of controversy, truly I take the liberty to stop them, till farther order ; and my directions are to stop those which come on either side ; which, I hope, will not be disallowed of : if it be, I can easily order the books to be freed. About 10 days since, in a vessel from Rouen, there came a parcel of books ; which I have caused to be stopped. The title of the book is, "Pax vobis ;" or, "Gospel and Liberty against ancient and modern Papists. By E. G. Preacher of the Word. Dedicated to the right honourable the lord Halifax." It is a very ill book ; and nothing but controversy.

Yesterday, in a ship from France, came a parcel of other books ; which I have likewise caused to be seized. The title of one is, "The bleeding Ephigenia &c." of the other, "A Ponderation upon certain branches and parts of the Act of Indemnity and Oblivion, passed anno 1660." These are not concerning religion, but the state : and, in truth, are libels upon the late king, and his government ; and tend to the stirring up people against the settlements here.

Two days since a printer of this town petitioned me to have liberty to print the papers, which were found in the late king's closet, as they have been in England ; which

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I thought

LETTERS OF

I thought not fit to grant at present, till I know his majesty's pleasure; which I desire to have from your lordship. I am sure, it is the safest way not to err, to do nothing without direction and order. I have nothing further to acquaint your lordship at present, but to assure you, that I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, March 20. 168 $\frac{1}{2}$.

THIS day about noon came in 4 packets from England; which brought letters of the 6th, 9th, 11th, and 13th instant; among which I have received yours of the 6th, and 13th. I am very glad to find by the first of them, that the king had the patience to hear read the long papers concerning Mr. Price, and that he judged so rightly of them. I will presume to say, would his majesty be pleased to cause those complaints and representations, which are made to him against men, to be duly examined, he would not be offended with so many of his subjects here, as he seems to be; and, for my own part, I will be content to undergo the severest punishment, when I make any partial character of any man living. I shall be very well pleased, if you can preserve poor Jo. Philipps; who is his uncle Robert's own nephew: and I need not say more of him. As to the king's giving credit to the

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the informations my lord T— gives him of men, I only say, that in a little time, I am very confident, his majesty will find, that most of them ought to have been weighed and considered. As to the alterations like to be among the judges, I writ so largely upon that matter in mine of the 14th to my lord president, which I enclosed in one of the same date to you, that I need add nothing to it: as to the advice you give me of sending over the best informations I can get of people here, and as soon as I can, I do purpose to follow it; but really, should I have sent over ill representations of any in office here, I must have been thought partial, and committed the same error, which I find fault in others for. I have not been informed of any thing to the prejudice of any of the judges, as to their principles or affections; and I thought their going this circuit, would have been of use in order to my information; and assure yourself, there go those in every circuit, who will watch them: and, I will venture to say, those, whose informations against them are believed, know as little of them (as to their own knowledge) as I do; and, I fear, are prejudiced by the informations of others. Most certainly as soon as I discover, and I am like to find it out as soon as another, any one in place, whom I do not judge proper for his station, I will, according to my duty, represent it. I hope, what I said to you in one of my last letters will satisfy you concerning Mr. Genew's place; and that you will agree, it shall be disposed of in the manner I mentioned: if not, I hope, you will not take it amiss, if I object to Sam. Bridges' having it, at least till I hear again from you. I have seen your instructions to the commissioners; and do not find,

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LETTERS OF

but the 7th article — That they should put in no officer for favour &c. has been well observed ; though perhaps some other particulars have been more remissly executed, than they ought to have been ; of which you shall have an account in due place. I pretend, that the chief governour has something to do in putting in officers into the revenue ; that is, they are to be approved of by him. For my own part, I shall be advised by the commissioners : but, in places of importance, it will not be amiss sometimes to let them see, that I will concern myself ; and, in these cases, I will give you an account, and keep the place void, till I hear fully from you. As, in this present case, Boswood, Mr. Genew's deputy, is continued by the commissioners to look to the collection of this port, till further order, and pays in the money weekly ; for the due performance of which he has given sufficient security. As to Mr. Samuel Bridges, pray remember, he is brother to one of the commissioners ; which I do think will not be convenient. The commissioner himself (to whom I would not do a prejudice ; though I must shortly say something to you of him) is thought to be dapped with Mr. Kingdon : if that should be true, judge then, how fatal it might be for him to be master of the cash of this port ; which he would certainly be, if his brother be in that place : and so the two brothers will be able to continue the trade, which was driven on by Mr. Kingdon, and Mr. Genew ; and which I would fain put an end to. Here is another brother Bridges, a captain in the army and governour of Calmore fort, who is indeed a very good sort of man, and of a very good understanding : not that I would have him in this office. But I can have

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no great reverence for the abilities of the commissioner; nor can I forget the dishonesty of the other brother at London; who cut out the leaves of the chimney-books. For this Samuel, you mention, I know him not; and so can say nothing to him. As for Nobbs, he depends, it is true, upon Mr. Ellis, secretary to the commissioners; but I hear nothing extraordinary of him: I will enquire after him. And you may be sure, the best man shall always be preferred; and, as you advise, always an Englishman rather than any other, and without any favour, affection, or money: but, as to this place now in question, nothing shall be done in it, till I hear fully from you. I am very glad to find by your's of the 13th, that mine of the 2d instant, and all my others before that, were come safe to you; so that, I hope, the fear of their falling into ill hands is quite over. Captain Forbes arrived here with the packet, and came immediately to me: he tells me, the report is great in England of alterations, that are to be made here; but he protests, he knows of none in particular, though he says, he was told at the secretary's office, that all the commissions were sealed. He says, that lord T— was so reserved, that he would not own, what command he was to have himself, nor that he had thoughts of coming quickly over; but his own letters to his servants bid them make ready for him, at his own house about 10 miles off; for he shall be there speedily. These last letters say, my lord Granard is to be president of the council here; an office not known in this kingdom: many other stories they tell; one is, that I am called home. Some letters say, there will be an alteration among the judges; but that men will be sent out of England

land to fill their places, and that none of the natives will be admitted : I wish, that may be true. The not filling the bishopricks does more amaze people, than any thing else. I have lately seen a letter, to a friend of mine here, out of the country about 40 miles off ; which says, that the priests there do report, that the king has sent to the pope about filling the See of Cashell : you may easily imagine, whether such stories will not raise apprehensions in men's minds. Your telling me, that the king was well pleased with those letters which my lord president read to him, is the only cordial I have had, whereby I have found, that what I do was agreeable to him. As soon as I receive his directions from my lord president, (which I have not yet done) they shall be pursued. I will very quickly send over a list of what judges have been here for many ages ; which is taken out of the records : whereby, I am told, it will appear, that none of the natives were allowed to be upon any of the benches, even before the difference in religion ; but of this I say nothing, till I send my evidence. I am glad the king sees I take pains : indeed I do, and you know, I can do it ; and do intend to value myself upon thoroughly understanding every tittle and nicety of every branch of the revenue of this kingdom, if I am let alone ; which, I am sure, will not be to the king's disadvantage. I am sure, it will encrease, if men are not frightened out of their wits ; and, I am sure, I do all that lies in me to keep up their spirits. If the king had a right representation of the several interests of this kingdom, (which, I will presume to say, he will scarce have from a native) I am sure, all would do well ; and such a one he shall have, (as short drawn as may be) as soon as it is possible

sible for me to collect it. I think, I have now answered both your letters; and will speedily send answers to those, I have received from the treasury-chamber. The packet goes away again tonight, (for I keep the postmaster to his days) if the wind be good; so that I shall write no other letters by this post: by the tuesday's packet I shall answer all the other letters, I have now received. God keep you and yours.

To the Lord T R E A S U R E R.

Dublin Castle, March 23. 168⁶.

Y O U will find by the enclosed, what letters the last post brought me from my lord president; and likewise, what answer I have written to him: which, I hope, is modest enough. I am sure, all the matter of fact I mention is true. Good god! that all little trials must be informed of there; and directions sent me for the putting them off, without leaving it in the least to my discretion; who, if I have done any thing of my duty, (notwithstanding the ignorance I am thought to be in by my late coming hither) must know more of the state of those matters, than those, who desired to have the proceedings stopped. This Norman, mentioned in the letter of the 8th, I know nothing of; but he is prosecuted by dean Manby, of whom I gave a character in a former letter to my lord president, as far as I could give it upon my one knowledge: which, if I am believed, methinks should not gain him much credit. He told me, that he was sure, I should have directions to put off the trial: and it seems, he has
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very good friends, who can prevail, that the information of a person unknown, in his own case, shall gain credit to have the chief governour be directed to put off trials downright, without ever enquiring into the justice or injustice of it. I have said nothing of this particular, you see, to my lord president; because he should not think me angry: though, in truth, such things would move one. But I will not be angry: no, though my lord T— should bring down the commissions for the officers of the army, (as some people here credibly report, he will) yet I will not be angry. Nay, let him, when he is here, carry himself, as it is generally believed he will, and feared by some of his wiser countrymen; yet I will not be angry: nothing shall provoke me to be out of temper. And I will have the vanity to tell you, (though a man ought not to brag of his virtues) that it is not in any man's power to say, he has seen me in the least passion, since my being here: though, perhaps, I have had some provocations; which other men would not have been so silent in. But, by the grace of god, I will not be provoked to be angry with any body, come what will; which, perhaps, will make some people fret. This morning my lord Forbes shewed me a letter from captain Sheldon; wherein was written to this effect — My lord T— says, my lord treasurer tells him, that your lordship says, John Philipps has no mind to part with his employment under you. My lord T— desires your lordship will signify, whether Philipps did not desire your lordship, that he might surrender it to Arthur. Upon which my lord Forbes told me, after great commendations of Philipps (of which you may see a certificate, if you please, in colonel Philipps' hands, both

both from his lordship and lord Granard) that it was true, he had desired him to be a means, that he might surrender to Arthur; that it was because he saw, my lord T— would have him out; and thereupon he shewed me Philipps' letter to him to that very effect, dated, as I remember, the 11th of December: I am sure, it was in that month. I advised my lord Forbes to tell the whole truth, and to send over that letter; which, he said, he would: so that, when my lord T— speaks with you again upon that matter, you may call upon him for that letter, and you may confidently assert to his lordship, that he had no intention to part with his place; (as may be easily believed, when he was to quit that for 500l, which cost him 1100l.) but because his lordship told him, he should go out. And he thereupon thought it better to secure something, than to lose all his younger brother's fortune. I am quite weary of making these complaints to you; and I have nothing of other matters to inform you of at present: I will therefore end here, and go to the answering of some other letters, I had by the last packet; which came in on Saturday from the treasury-chamber. Pray think of what I said to you, in mine of the 14th past, concerning a commission of grace: if it be thought fitting; it would do me credit, if it came, or was talked of, upon my proposal and advice, rather than from the opinion of men of other principles. God keep you and yours.

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To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, March 23. 1685.

YESTERDAY I received your lordship's of the 8th instant, directing me to take care for the putting off several trials; which were to be brought on at these assizes. My lord, the assizes for the counties of Down and Londonderry were held on the 18th instant, where most of the considerable presons, your lordship mentions, were to be tried. However I doubt not, but things are gone, as they ought to do: for, before the judges went out of town, in the charge I gave them, I particularly directed them to take all possible care in the trials of all such, as should be indicted for words spoken against the king; and in whatever cases the king was concerned, if his majesty's council said they were not ready to go on, (and some are appointed in every circuit to be of council for the king) all such trials are directed to be put off till the next assizes; nay even, though this be the second assizes, since the men were indicted: which may be thought hard; and may not be agreeable to the strict rules of law. And this has been observed in such cases, as have hitherto happened; as particularly at Trim, where the assizes were held the 25th past; and where one Mr. Meredith, was to be tried for words. Because that matter has made a great noise, and the gentleman is well spoken of by people of both religions, (I never saw him myself) I desired Mr. Nugent, of the king's council, to go to Trim, being but 20 miles from hence: which he did, and brought me word, that, upon his motion and allegation that

that he was not ready, that trial was put off; and he much commended to me the carriage of the judge, baron Harstowne. When any trials are put off, the parties do all give bail to appear at the time; which they have all hitherto (whom I have had an account of) been very ready to do. But indeed the accusers have not been so; but have thought it very hard to be bound to prosecute: and yet that must be, or the judges and justices of the peace will be sufficiently blamed. As soon as the judges return, I intend to lay before your lordship a perfect account of all the indictments, that have been preferred these assizes throughout the kingdom, relating to his majesty; together with the evidence and proofs, and what has been done thereupon, and what are put off, and why.

I have received your lordship's of the 11th instant; to which I shall not presume to say any thing: for, no doubt, the king is the best judge, what alterations to make in all parts of his government, and of the times of making them. As to the king's not advising with me first, before he resolved upon any of those matters; I look upon his majesty's declaration of the method he intends to have observed in things of that nature, to proceed from the opinion he has, that the best information is like to come from his chief governour; and, as he is pleased to say in his instructions, to enable his chief governour to serve him the better. I am sure, no one information has been given me which I have not transmitted to your lordship: and shall ever do so, and obey the orders I receive from you. But I beg your lordship to give me your pardon, if I make use of that freedom you gave me leave to

write to you in, depending so much, as I have reason to do, upon your friendship: and therefore you will excuse the moan I make to you, in laying before you, how little I shall be made in the opinion of the people here, without some support from your lordship; when so many and great alterations are made here, and I know nothing of them, but from common fame; and especially since some letters, which bring the news of changes, (and many of those reports are true; as your lordship finds by some of my letters) take care to say, that this and this is done, and my lord lieutenant knows nothing of it. My lord, I would have the king pleased in every thing; and my ambition to be best able to serve him makes me make this complaint to your lordship, which I leave perfectly to your judgment; who very well know, that all men are more or less able to serve the king according to the countenance his majesty is pleased to shew them in their employments. Here is nobody, that I can have any concern for; and, if I had, by the grace of god, I will never be found to give other than a just and true character; as, I am sure, I have done hitherto in all the representations I have laid before you.

As to the 3 judges, your lordship says, the king has resolved to remove, I shall say nothing but in my own defence. I beg leave to assure your lordship, that I have not been backward in endeavouring to inform myself of them, as to their principles as well as to their publick behaviour in their stations: and, upon my word, I do indifferently advise with roman catholicks, as well as protestants, as I do refer myself to themselves for the truth of what I say; and, if I had been informed of any thing amiss

amiss concerning any of them, your lordship should certainly have had it from me. And I may a little wonder, that nobody should tell me any thing of them, as well as send informations into England ; since they would have had the same effect, of being laid before his majesty. Whoever his majesty shall think fit to put in their places, if I may humbly offer my advice, (which I do with all submission) they should be men sent from England ; which, I am sure, the king will find for his service. As to the putting some roman catholicks into the council, and the commissions of the peace, and to be sheriffs, it cannot be denied, but several of them were in those employments before the rebellion. The only statute against them I mentioned to your lordship in mine of the 14th ; wherein I laid before you the matter of fact, and the practice that has been all along observed, when they were in those commissions ; all which I humbly submitted. Who should be put into the commission of peace, ought to be well considered ; but that is our busines here, when the king's letters come : for, I do assure your lordship, there is great difference between Irishman and Irishman ; and as many feuds and animosities between them, as between any people in the world. As to the suppressing the printed news letters here, I gave your lordship an account in mine of the 16th of what I had already done in that matter, and of some other things ; in which, I hope, I have not done amiss. I have no more to trouble your lordship with, but to assure you, that I make it my whole busines to serve the king, in all his affairs here, to the best of my understanding ; and I do not doubt, but I shall very speedily give such an account of them, as will be

LETTERS OF

be to his majesty's satisfaction : which as they will come before your lordship, so I shall beg your favourable representation of,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's

most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord Treasurer.

Dublin Castle, March 27. 1686.

IF you look upon the copy of my lord president's letter of the 8th instant, which I sent you in my last ; you will find, that it came to my hands on the 22d; which was 2 days after I had my other letters, which came by the said packet. Lest I should be thought backward in giving the necessary orders for the particulars mentioned in the said letter, (though it would have been too late, if it had come to my hands on the 20th with the other letters) I have been inquisitive of the postmaster, who is a very honest man, to know, how that letter came not to be brought me with the rest of my letters from Whitehall. After some enquiry at the office I find, it came enclosed from one at Chester to a clerk in the post-office here, (a very honest man too) who by some chance or other did not send it to me so soon, as he ought to have done. I send you a copy of the letter, which enclosed mine ; by which you may be confirmed, that those orders were procured by some Irish solicitation : this Magennis belongs to the post-office at Chester ; and is not at all known to Standish

Standish at the post-office here, though he directed my letter under cover to him. The other letters, he desires Standish to deliver, were two; one to Mr. Nugent of the king's council, the other to one Magennis, who keeps a publick house in this town. I have taken care to have an account of this Magennis at Chester; and then you shall know more of this matter. I tell you truly, I do not like such fellows being in the post-office any where. Those of that name here are very busy people: two especially, who live in the county of Down; where some of these trials were to be. I know not why I tell you this story, but that I would have you know every thing: and you may at one time or other perhaps make use of these little hints. Yesterday captain Forbes returned for England, in order to his journey into Hungary: I did not write by him, having no occasion. Indeed I could wish, my lord Mountjoy were not suffered to make that journey; from which, methinks, his circumstances should excuse him: and really, if I might be heard in the case, I am of opinion, that his being in his employments here is necessary; especially, if the king will have his army here encamp this summer, then sure the master of the ordnance ought to be present. We have no letters from England since those of the 13th; and must expect none, as long as the wind sits as it does. I have written you a long letter to the treasury, concerning a method for the accounts of this revenue to be put into, in answer to what you writ to me upon that subject on the 16th of january. I should make an excuse for not having done it sooner; but really it required so many conferences with several persons, that it could not well be dispatched much sooner; considering the

the other things I had likewise to do: for, I am sure, I have never been idle since my arrival here. I have stated every thing as fully, and as plain as I can; and the whole is with submission: I hope, it will not be thought, I have arrogated too much power to my lord lieutenant, when you consider, that I desire no more power for him, than what was given him by the first constitution of the commissioners of the revenue; and when it is likewise considered, that god knows, how little a time I am to be here. When I discoursed with the commissioners of the very large, and, in my opinion, unfit powers given them by the last commission; which made the chief governour in that respect subordinate to them, (for he was only to approve of the quarterly establishment for their officers' salaries, and they, the commissioners, were then to draw warrants for payment) their answer to me was, that that additional power was first procured by the representation of my lord of Arran, with whom Mr. Kingdon had a mighty interest; and that Mr. Kingdon would never have been quiet, nor have returned hither again, till he could one way or other have got into the management of the cash: which, they say, had he been here, he would in some measure have done by virtue of that last commission. They say further, that Mr. Kingdon was a man of that imperious governing temper, that there was no living with him, without submitting to him. When I asked them, as I have done all severally, why they did not represent some of his irregularities, or domineering proceedings to the treasury in England; their answer was, (every one single) that you had so preached union and agreement to them, that, whatever representation they had made,

made, they believe, you would have looked upon it as coming from some animosity, and would not have given credit to it. This I do not take to be a good answer; but Kingdon is dead, and there is an end: there can be no more inconveniencies upon that account. If I do my duty, as, I hope, I have hitherto done; my frequent conferences with them, and the constant accounts they give me of all their proceedings, will keep every thing right. Mr. Strong tells me, you have given him leave to go for England; but I have prevailed with him to stay, till Mr. Aubery comes: for indeed 3 are too few to be upon the place; especially considering the time of year, when one ought to be going into the country upon a circuit. I think, I am never to write you a short letter; and therefore I will end here, for fear of running out too far. God almighty keep you and yours.

To the Queen.

Dublin Castle, March 27. 1686.

IN obedience to your majesty's commands of the 3d instant I write this without any ceremony; which nothing but your positive command could justify. Sure your majesty forgets yourself, when you go about to make excuses for not writing to me; and I never thought to expect it, but when you have any commands for me; of which, I doubt, you will find none for me in this place. To hear from my sister Rochester, that I live under your majesty's protection, will be cordial enough, without putting your majesty to the condescension of writing. The

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most gracious expressions, your majesty is pleased to use in your letter, give me the confidence to make an humble supplication to your majesty, that I may not be rendered contemptible in the opinion of people here by being thought to have no trust from the king. There are several alterations in employments here; and the first news, I have of them, is by letters from people in England to their friends here; some of which I have seen, and have given account thereof to my lord president. Your majesty knows very well, that all men are more or less able to serve their masters, according to the countenance they are found to have from him; and if men are put out of, and into offices here, upon representations made in England, without any the least communication with the chief governour here; your majesty may easily imagine, he that has the honour to be in that station must needs appear very little to people here. My ambition to be able to do the king as much service as any one else makes me beg your majesty's protection herein. I hope, I have not displeased his majesty in any thing I have done since my being here: I am sure, I have given the most just and most impartial accounts both of things and persons that I could meet with; and I shall ever continue so to do. When the king knows every thing that can be said, he is the best judge; and, I hope, both your majesties believe, that your commands cannot meet with a more ready obedience from any one living than from me. I can have no interest in this world, but to serve the king to his greatest advantage; which, I am sure, ever has been, and always shall be my study to my utmost capacity. He shall never find me partial: I will never conceal any thing from him,

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be it never so much to my prejudice ; and I will always tell him truth, and ever obey him : and, as long as I do so, I hope, I shall not want his, nor your majesty's countenance for my support.

I have presumed to send your majesty a small present of a little piece of crimson velvet : it is not worth your acceptance otherwise, than as it is the first fruits of a manufacture lately set up in this your kingdom ; and in that respect may claim to be your majesty's due. It is only a pattern for you to see, what an industrious people can do, if they have any encouragement. If your majesty had occasion for a quantity of any colour, it may be afforded much cheaper, than you can have it in England. I most humbly beg your majesty's pardon for all this presumption ; and that I may be owned, as I am with perfect devotion,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,
CLARENDRON.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, March 27. 1686.

THOUGH I cannot give your lordship a particular account of what has past generally at the assizes in this kingdom, in matters where the king was concerned, till the return of the judges ; yet such things as come to my knowledge I think fit to impart to your lordship for your entertainment, till I can give you more particular relations. At the assizes at Londonderry one William

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Baird was indicted for seditious words, and was by the jury found guilty ; and by the court fined in 500l, and to be imprisoned. This short account I have, by letter, from one of the witnesses ; by which I am very glad to see, that some good juries are to be found even in those north parts of this kingdom : but, I do not doubt, they will always be to be had, if the same care be taken, as has been this time.

I have likewise had a short account from Downe-Patrick ; where Cornet Johnson was tried for killing Archibald Hamilton ; and the jury brought him in guilty of chance-medley : by which, I presume, there is no great harm done.

I have had a letter from an Irish lawyer, who went the Leinster circuit, infinitely commending the behaviour of judge Johnson. I doubt not, but after the circuits to give you a perfect account of every thing : I have no more to trouble you with at present, but to beg the continuance of your favour and friendship to,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, March 30. 1686.

THIS morning came in 5 packets from England, among which I received yours of the 16th, 20th, and 23d instant ; and by Mr. Bridges, who came in the same

same boat, I had yours of the 15th; for all which ten thousand thanks to you. I can only now acknowledge them; for the packet goes off again the next tide. I have never yet stopped any, (though it has been heretofore frequently done) nor will I without urgent occasion for the king's service. I hope, you will be satisfied with what I writ to you in a former letter concerning Mr. Bridges' not having the collector's place of this port: however nothing shall be done in that matter, till I have your answer to that letter. Though you writ me word in yours of the 13th, and likewise in your other of the 16th, that my lord president had orders to write to me about the outlawries; yet I have not received those orders. I had a letter from his lordship by these packets of the 23d; but it was upon ordinary affairs, and not one word of that matter. I do not say this, that you should speak to him upon it; but only, that you may make your own reflections upon his not having sent me those commands: I can truly say, when I am called upon by any of the parties concerned, that I have yet received no orders upon the petition; and the hint you have given me will prepare me the better; which, I assure you, is all the use shall be made of it. I have received to day a letter from my lord chancellor of England, which, if it be not sincere, is at least very civil, and seeming kind: I here send you a copy of it. By the next packet I intend to answer it; which you shall likewise see.

Baron Harstowne is returned from his circuit, and goes tomorrow for England; which I had promised him leave to do before he went the circuit, he having really business there; and will make no stay there, whether he loses his

his employment or not : if he be put out, he will return to his practice. By all the account I can get of him, he is an honest man : every body knows, he is able, and certainly has carried himself well in his post. These last letters have filled the town with much news : that which makes most noise, is, that lord Granard is quite out of the army, and to be president of the council ; which people laugh at strangely, there having never been any such office here, nor rank for him. All that I say (for my withdrawing room is full of the discourse) is, that I know nothing of these matters. My next will be a longer letter : in the mean time, and ever I beseech god almighty to bles and keep you and all yours.

I have received the king's letter for constituting Mr. K—— vice-treasurer ; but not any order to make him of the council ; which might have been in the same letter : but since it is not, there must be another letter for it. I have the king's letter for the renewing the commission of the revenue, and inserting Mr. Aubery's name in it ; but I think not to make haste in passing it, till I receive your answer to mine of the 27th to the treasury. I shall take care, as you direct, concerning my Kingdon's salary.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, March 30. 1686.

CAPTAIN Colt's petition having been referred by his majesty to my lord treasurer, and by him to me, and I having made a large report to his lordship thereupon, I need not give your lordship any trouble in it : but the

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the poor man, going into England himself to solicit his own affairs, is very earnest with me to recommend him to your lordship; which I cannot refuse to gratify him in. The truth of it is, his case is very sad, and his services are very well known to persons of unquestionable integrity in England as well as Ireland. All that I can say is, that I have not met with one of captain Colt's condition of a better character. I know, the king would not have a man suffer, who has served the crown so long. This poor gentleman must be ruined, if the king be not graciously pleased to extend his compassion some way or other towards him. I know, I cannot leave him better, than to your lordship's generosity; who love to help those, who have need of it. I have troubled you sufficiently upon this occasion; for which I ask your pardon, and am
with all respect,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,
CLARENDRON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, April 3. 1686.

I COME now to make more particular answers to your letters; of which I could only acknowledge the receipt in my last. And first to your's of the 16th past, I did by the last packet receive the king's letter for renewing the contract to the duke of Ormond concerning the prifage. The last week captain Matthews was in town,
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and would fain have contracted with the commissioners of the revenue for that duty, during my lord duke's life ; for which he demanded 2200l. and would have taken 2100l. But I think, it is best to continue it now at the rate of 2000l. for this year ; and then, if things go well, you may think about christmas next, what will be fit to be done. I do not doubt, but I shall give you a good account of the patent officers. I have consulted with Mr. solicitor particularly upon the statute of 10th H. VII. chapter 2d ; (you have the Irish statutes by you) which says expressly, that no manner of officers accomptants shall have any authority by patent in their such offices, but only at the king's will and pleasure. Mr. solicitor thinks, that by virtue of this clause the patents of such, who are accomptants, may be voidable ; which will bring in the customers of the several ports, if there be not a Non obstante in their patents.

You shall in a little time have a full account of this matter : in the mean time I would be glad, if you please, that you would send me the list, you mention, of 8 or 10 such patent officers ; who, you think, may have done things whereby to forfeit their employments ; which would be a good light to me. As for what you say of the auditor general ; he is no doubt a pitiful weak man ; but the grant of the office is to himself, or sufficient deputy : and whether the ill conduct of a deputy will make the principal forfeit his right in the office, will at least be a question ; especially since the government may appoint what deputy shall be fit, and such, and as many clerks, as shall be necessary. And perhaps it may be better for me to take that care of the office, than to endeavour to avoid

Mr.

Mr. Ware's patent: since, if it should be void, Mr Deer-
ing will come in by his reversionary grant; who, I am
told, is a young man never bred that way. But I will
throughly consider of this matter; and you may be sure,
whatever you wish shall be done in it. I am very well
satisfied in what you say concerning the lands to be passed
to Mr. Guy; and will put it in a forwardness. I thought
the informality was, that, since it related to the passing
of lands, it was not countersigned by you, as others of
that nature are. I am glad with all my heart, that Wil-
liam Legg has the government of Kinsale, and that he
will come over. I hope, he will continue here: I will
make as much of him as I can. I have spoken again to
Mr. Muschamp to hasten over: if it be rightly consider-
ed, his not going sooner cannot reflect on me; for I could
not send him over in custody, nor was I directed so to do:
and I am confident, nobody here can charge me with
partiality in that, or any thing else; and trust me, they
never shall. To your's of the 20th, which was in answer
to mine of the 9th, if you consider the letters I have writ-
ten to you since, you will find, the mystery of iniquity
between Boswood &c. was not then revealed to me; and
you shall hear me speak no more in his behalf. I shall
let him know, he is not to expect the quarter's salary due
at lady-day to Mr. Kingdon; and I have directed the
commissioners to leave it out of the establishment, when
they bring it to me for my approbation: and then, you
may be sure, the king will not pay it. I say no more to
you concerning my lord primate's being of the council: it
is best, as you say, that matter be not stirred. The king's
letter, for dissolving the last council, and constituting that

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which is now in being, makes the primate (amongst others in the like manner) for the time being of the council: so that he will continue there, if he be not by particular direction left out. I have given Mr. Price the admonition you advice; for which he is very thankful: but at the same time he protests, he never said any thing in his life disrespectful towards lord Tyrconnel. The man, by what he appears to me, does not seem to be of a talking temper. I have no acquaintance with him, but since my being here; and have no conversation with him, but upon the publick account. As concerning the deductions from the army to the commissary general and the pells, I am prepared to make a true representation of that matter, when I am called upon. I say nothing to you now concerning the collector's place of this port, or Mr. Shaw, because I have written fully to you upon it in my former letters; to which I expect an answer, before the place shall be filled. I say no more to you of Salwey; you being the best judge, what is fit for you to do in such cases. I have written to my son as effectually as I can; and so has my wife too. I can but be sorry, and that I am sufficiently, that he does not do all things, I would have him. Nobody is without their mortifications: and it is none of the least, which I have, when I consider his temper and proceedings. I have nothing in particular to reply to your little note of the 23d, but my thanks. I told you in my 17th letter, how I resolved to live with lord T——; which resolution, by the grace of god, no man, nor provocation, shall make me break. If you do not find, that the letters to the king and my lord president, which you caused to be delivered, have done me harm before

before this time; I hope, that apprehension is over. I find by my lord president's letter to me of the 27th, that he had received it; but his letter is very short, only two lines to tell me, that he had received mine of the 14th, with an enclosed in it for the king.

Yesterday came in a packet from England; which brought me yours of the 27th past. If the money, due from Genew deceased to the king here, be paid by his security in England; you will take care to have it certified in some kind of form hither; that it may be brought regularly to account. Pray, do not think, I intend to continue Boswood in the employment: surely it will not be fit, if it were only for the example, that a man, who had made use of the king's money, should be found after detection in the same station. What was done was only for the present; which for several reasons was fit, till I have resolved, how the office should be disposed of: and for this temporary continuance he has given 1200l. security: which is sufficient, considering the weekly account. I take, and it is a sign, he himself is thought here no ill man; when he could get fresh security in the midst of his misfortunes. This Boswood drew bills upon Mr. Kingdon for 1200l.; which he accepted about a fortnight before he died: if those are paid, he will be whole. I am not surprised at any ill thing, which is discovered of Kingdon; because I never had a good opinion of the man, knowing so much of his father, and of his own beginning, as I have done. But there is an end of him; and I know, you had nothing to do in the bringing him into the service: I very well remember, what interest did that. It is always best to employ men, who have gene-

rally good reputations; for those, who have been once faulty, are more apt to be so again, when they have opportunity, than others. I doubt not, but I shall give you a very good account of the bonds for the imported excise. I think, it will do very well, if the matter relating to the plantation trade be brought before the king and council; where, I presume, sir D. North will not have the same predominancy, as amongst his brethren of the custom-house. I wish, his opiniatrety in some things have not prejudiced the trade of England. I never in my life knew a man so wedded to his own opinion, as well as interest, as he was. Witness the busines of the Turky company; against whom he (very unhandsomely in the opinion of several of my lords) appeared at the council-board; and which, I doubt, that profitable trade and beneficial to the kingdom yet feels. Whatever resolution shall be taken in it, will equally satisfy me. When I have fully represented any thing, I have done my duty, and so leave it. As concerning my son I can say nothing more at present, but that, I think, you pitch upon the best man to propose that matter. I think him fully of weight enough; and I am sure, he will do it both heartily and faithfully, just in the method you direct him. God almighty keep you and all yours; and make your days as happy all of them, as you yourself do wish.

To Mr. Blathwait.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, April 3. 1686.

ON the 30th of the last month came in five packets from England, among which I had yours of the 18th; for which I give you many thanks, and for communicating to me the accounts you receive of affairs from the plantations; which I beg you to continue to me. By a letter I lately received from my lord president, I find, his majesty will not have his army here encamp this summer; so that nothing more needs be said upon that matter at present. I intend very speedily to send you a perfect scheme of this army and quarters; and of the pay of the officers, and soldiers, as you desire: it is preparing for you very exact.

Yesterday I received your's of the 27th past, with the copy of the order of council for regulating the payments of the forces and garrisons by the colonels and governors; for which I return you my thanks, and shall be very glad to receive your answer to my other queries, when you are at leisure.

When my lord Mountjoy has put in his answer to the officers' of the ordnance paper against his proposal for making arms, &c. here; I desire, you will procure me copies of all, and send them to me for my instruction. If the king be satisfied, I have no more to say; but, as I am at present informed, it is very plain, that all arms may be made here, as good at least as those the king's troops have in England, at less rates, than are paid at the office of the ordnance in England; from whence all the
arms

arms are furnished for this kingdom: so that, besides what will be saved in the price, which in a quantity comes to a good deal, there will be no hazard of the sea in the case; and the charge of exchange in remitting the money will be likewise saved, which is very considerable. I am none of those, who would not have the king draw money from hence: on the contrary, in god's name, when the charge of the government is defrayed, whatever can be spared ought to be in his majesty's coffers, where he thinks it most useful for him. But whatever necessaries must be bought for his majesty's service, certainly it is most for his majesty's profit to have them at the cheapest rates, if the things are the best that can be had: and, if those things can be made here as good as any where else, and cheaper, certainly it must do his people good to employ them, and will improve his revenue; whereby his majesty will have the more money to draw into England, as he pleafeth. But what the king thinks fit will be best: I hope, I shall not be blamed for wishing the country where I am to thrive; especially since it is his majesty's. Sometime the last month I writ to my lord treasurer about some things concerning the trade of this island to the plantations, and sent him a representation made to me by the commissioners of the revenue here: if you speak to him, I believe, he will shew you both. I should be very glad of your opinion, whether you think, what I have proposed can be to the prejudice of England: I am sure, it will be much to the benefit of the plantations, especially of the tobacco trade, as well as of this kingdom: I fear, sir D. North will be stiff in this matter. I have nothing more to trouble you with at present, but to thank
you

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you for your other intelligence ; which, I hope, you will continue to the great satisfaction of,

Sir,

Your very affectionate servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord T R E A S U R E R.

Dublin Castle, April 6. 1686.

THE packets from England now come in thick ; for on sunday I received your's of the 30th past ; and, I believe, you now want as many from us, as we have done from you at other times ; for which there is no remedy : the winds will always blow where they list. I find by your letter, that I was very unhappy in some expressions I used in mine of the 20th past ; as if I pretended, more than I ought to do, to the power of putting in officers into the revenue. I meant it only thus ; that, if the commissioners put in any, against whom I had just causes of exception, they should see, they were under controul ; and that I did expect to be advised with in the matter, which I thought for the king's service. I never intended to put in any one into any office directly, nor to do any thing of that kind, without referring it to and advising with them ; of which I could give some instances already, as, I dare say, the commissioners themselves will testify. The truth is, the practice hitherto (since the management) has been thus : the commissioners have put in, and put out, as they have thought fit, without ever advising or conferring with the chief governour ; but, at the

the end of the quarter, they brought their establishment for all the salaries and allowances to their under-officers for that quarter (their own included) to the chief governour for his approval, in the manner mentioned in the enclosed paper ; and underneath the cheif governour used to write, as you will likewise find in the enclosed. This used to be done of course ; and, if any thing happened amiss in any of the officers, the answer the commissioners gave was, that the establishment was approved of by the lord lieutenant. At the same time, the commissioners owned to me, that the lord lieutenant and lord deputy (you know, who they were) did always approve of the establishments, when they were brought to them, as of course ; which I do not think fit to do, without letting them see, that I enquire into the men. The commissioners and I have never yet had any thing like a contest ; and I verily believe, shall not : we may differ in opinion without quarrelling ; and when we do so, it is submitted to you, as you see by maine of the 30th to the treasury ; that matter of taking the accounts of the revenue, and the power, which is given them by the last short commission, being the only things in which we have differed. And even in those cases there was nothing of warmth, nor heat ; and they themselves have since owned to me, that all things may be done without any difficulty, as I have proposed, since I take so much pains in the revenue. But the whole matter lies before you ; and which way ever you determine it, I assure you, we shall be here alike good friends. I have never in any of my letters said any thing, as if I had a mind to have Mr. R. Bridges put out of the commission : a man may not be the ablest man in

in the world, and yet not deserve to be put out of employment. I told you, it was feared, he was dipped with Kingdon ; but that would not concern the king. I told you, that there had been a subtile trade driven here with the king's money ; which as soon as I can clearly discover, you shall have an account of it : and that I shall be able to do in a little time. I must not make too much haste, for fear of losing, instead of making the discovery. For captain M. Bridges, I have a very good opinion of him, by what I found by him in my journey ; and he was perpetually with me for a month together. I take him to be as good a sort of man, as I have known ; and methinks it should be a strange thing, (if any thing were so) that it should be imputed as a fault to a man for attending his general to his command : but let that pass. For the other brother Bridges, who cut out the leaves of the chimney-books, I am inclined to have no more charity for him, than for his principal Mr. Trant ; who, I hear, comes over hither with my lord T— in order, I suppose, to be somebody. I shall live with him, as I ought to do ; though I hate him for your sake : and those 2, Bridges and T—, are a couple of knaves, and will be ever so. This S. Bridges, who is lately come over, I know not at all ; and gave you only my opinion, why I did not think fit to put him into the employment, he pretended to, just at this time, both for the king's service and for your sake. I have not propos'd making any one of the commissioners places vacant ; nor shall I do it without such sufficient cause, as will bear the examination. And, you may be sure, I will never be without the caution you justly give me concerning Mr. K— : for, I doubt not, the

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goodnatured people would not want both saying and believing, whoever I should represent as fit to be put out, that it was to make way for my brother-in-law. But I will disappoint them in that, by making no such representation, but upon the terms I have told you, when it is for the king's disadvantage to have it concealed. Probably somebody may die, or give out; which will be a better opportunity of bringing Mr. K—in, than the other. Mr. Strong, who will go hence after the yacht returns with my lord chancellor Porter, if he cannot get his health, (which in truth he much wants) I doubt, will not care to return: but, pray, do not hearken too easily to him in that; for he knows the business here, is very industrious and diligent, and useful. And now, pray, do not believe, that I desire to have Mr. Bridges put out of the commission, till I tell you so plainly, and give you my reasons for it.

Before I leave off this matter, I must acquaint you of a little thing between the commissioners of the revenue and me at this time; which is this. I arrived here on the 9th of january: their establishment for the salaries of the under-officers, for the quarter ending the 25th of december before, was not signed by the lords justices; who now refuse to do it, being out of power, though the service was done in their reign. I, to appear as careful of myself, as their lordships are, have refused to sign it; because it was done before my time. The money is all paid; but, if the books be not signed by some chief governour or other, the money will not be allowed upon the collectors' accounts. I have no objection to any thing in the book; and am ready to sign it, if you think it proper: for I would

would not be more scrupulous, than I ought to be. And now, I think, I have done with all things relating to the revenue at this time. I find, major Dorington makes himself sure of sir Charles Feilding's place ; though we have no formal notice of it here, as yet : but he has sent over to know, what the adjutant, and quartermaster of the regiment will give to be continued in their places ; which captain Forbes will give an account of, if he be asked. I had it not from him, but from as sure a hand as can be ; and I only tell it you, that, if you think it convenient to have such practices laid open, I may offer you an opportunity of doing it, by having Forbes asked, what he knows of it, without bringing any fending and proving in the case. At one time or other the king will have an inconvenience in his army here by the officers having power to dismiss men, when they please, without giving any reason for it : for by that means, as soon as a muster is over, they may disband half their companies, and not take in men again, till some short time before the next muster ; which, I doubt, has been too often done, of which I shall know more ; and money is, I fear, taken by the officers for giving men leave to quit the service, and for taking others into it, even common men.

The earl of Limerick's patent for his honour, is not yet passed the seal, for want of money to pay the fees at the several offices. My lord chancellor offered to remit his : but it seems, money cannot be found to carry it through the rest ; which is some sign, that the report of the world is not totally untrue, of his being very low in his fortune. He has been very ill ever since two days after my being here, having been in a dying condition ;

but he is now pretty well recovered: he and his family have lived very civilly with me; as, I must needs say, every body has done. He sent to me 3 days since, that I would give his son, my lord Dungan, leave to go into England, upon urgent occasions of his: which I did not think fit to deny him, being upon his father's request, and considering his alliance. The young lord went last night in the yacht; in which are gone a multitude of people, and many ladies, as my lady Clanawly and her 2 daughters, captain Robert Fitz-Gerald's lady and her 2 daughters; one of which is married to one Mr. Allen, whose father is one of the most substantial citizens of this city, and as wife a man as you shall meet with of that rank. He is a very great dealer; but, I doubt, he has thoughts of quitting and retiring: he is very honest. I fear, more of our best men have the same thoughts: I assure you, I have done, and will do all I can to divert them. My lord Forbes is likewise gone over for a very little time, as he says, upon his father's occasions, and his own. In my last letter to the treasury I sent you a view of the year's account, ending the 25th of December last; which is as you shall have it at the end of every year, and every quarter; but you shall hereafter have it much sooner. It is only to shew you in gross, whereabouts the matter will be; and, I dare say, at the year's end there will not be 1000l. difference one way or other: but the exact particular account you cannot have, till all the collectors' accounts are declared, and likewise the receiver general's; which you shall have as soon as is possible, and hereafter by the end of March, for the preceding year.

I had

I had a letter from you from the treasury of the 16th past, with the copy of a petition from lord Mount Alexander, pretending to make a discovery of some concealed rents. I suppose, he will be, like the rest of the world, angry, if I do not make a return in his favour; which, truly I doubt, I cannot do. The case stands thus. There were certain old composition rents in charge before the year 1641: they are still in charge for the province of Connaught and county of Clare, and are brought in to the king's use. The commissioners of the revenue think, the king has the same right in the provinces of Leinster and Munster: they have had several conferences with me upon it from my first coming hither; and I ordered a case to be made of it, which has lain before the king's council a great while for their opinions; and it shall very speedily with my report be transmitted to your lordship. How therefore it can be called a discovery, I know not; but you shall quickly have it in form. You will see by the enclosed, what I have received from my lord president, and what I have written to him. Pray, contribute what you can towards the preferring of Rycaut, by whom I must write a line to you. What I have said of the merit of his family, and of himself, is true: he has the good fortune to be very nearly related to my lord Sunderland; so, I hope, he may succeed in his pretensions. The truth is, I would be very glad to be upon a fair occasion rid of him out of my family; where he is very inconvenient upon the score of his religion. He is a hotheaded, troublesome man: you understand me. God almighty keep you and yours. This day the packet from England of the 1st instant is come in; which brings me none from you:

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so that your trouble will not be lengthened upon that account; and you will say, it needs not.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, April 6. 1686.

SINCE my last I have received your lordships of the 23d, and 27th past; and am very glad, that his majesty is pleased to approve of what I had done concerning printing, and in stopping the books from beyond seas; which I will see strictly observed, and hope, I shall be so happy as to do nothing here, but what the king will like. The Portsmouth yacht sailed last night for Chester, to wait for my lord chancellor Porter. On saturday night your lordship's of the 20th past was brought me by the roman catholick primate, and bishop of Clogher and Kilmore; to whom I shall perform all the offices, they shall desire upon all occasions. I told these bishops, that I had not heard, that any of their inferiour clergy had made any complaints, or applications to any of our magistrates: they told me, they could not say, there had been any since my being here. I assured them, I would give effectual orders, that, whatever should happen of that kind, the parties should not be countenanced, and their superiours should have notice of them; for I was too well acquainted with the mischief that sort of loose clergy had done, who would submit to no authority; of which there were too many in all religions. I am giving the necessary orders, your lordship commands, to our arch-bishops, bishops, sheriffs &c, that the roman catholick clergy may not

not be molested in the exercise of their functions ; and I must upon this occasion beg leave to say again, that there has not been the least disturbance given to any one of them since my being here. If there had, I am confident, I should have heard of it ; for the roman catholicks (with whom I discourse as indifferently, as with others) know, I would have done them right ; and for this I appeal to themselves. Indeed I must needs say, all people here seem infinitely disposed to be quiet ; and it is not possible for men to make greater professions of duty and loyalty to the king, and long for opportunities to shew it. Though I have some accounts of the proceedings at several of the assizes, yet I think it better to say nothing of that matter, till I can lay the whole before your lordship ; which will be very speedily : but I am very confident for the most part, the king will not dislike the proceedings in the country. Last night I had a letter from my lord chief justice Keyting at Cork, where the assizes now are ; in which he tells me, he is like to find more trouble from Clarke's busines, than from all the rest that is before him. I sent your lordship sometime since a copy of his long information : colonel Macarty can give your lordship some account of him. My lord chief justice believes the fellow to be mad ; but of this you shall have a full account with the rest.

Here is lately happened a very unfortunate accident in the country, a quarrel between captain Twisleton, a captain in sir Thomas Newcomen's regiment, and captain George Butler, a captain in colonel Fairfax's regiment. Butler was killed upon the place ; and Twisleton is taken. I am sure, exemplary justice shall be done. I cannot give
your

your lordship an account of the particulars ; but, as soon as I have it from colonel Fairfax, and lieutenant colonel Ant. Hamilton, whom I have directed to enquire into it, it shall be transmitted to your lordship. By this means there are two companies void ; which the king will think of supplying. If it would not be too great a presumption, I would beg your lordship's favour to intercede for one of them to be bestowed upon one of my gentlemen, Mr. Rycaut. He hopes, he may have some pretence to his majesty's bounty, his family having always served the crown : he himself was consul for the late king at Algiers ; and last summer in the new levies had a commission to be captain of the horse to sir Edw. Carteret ; which troop was afterwards disbanded, and it had cost this gentleman above 100l. He came over hither with me, hoping, I might be able to do something for him in time. I know him to be honest, and make no difference between such, of whatever religion they are ; for I have several roman catholicks (of which he is one) in my family. Your lordship knows, every body loves to advance those, who depend upon them ; and, if I can obtain this request by your lordship's means, I shall take it for a very great favour and obligation, though nothing can make me more than I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord C H A N C E L L O R.

My Noble Lord, Dublin Castle, April 6. 1686.

I HAVE received your lordship's favour of the 25th past with great satisfaction, in two points especially; the one, that my endeavours here, and the accounts I have given of affairs in this kingdom, were satisfactory to his majesty; the other, that your lordship is so friendly and kind, as to afford your assistance in making a favourable representation of them; which I shall beg the continuance of, with this assurance, that, as I have hitherto, so I shall, while I have the honour of being here, make it my whole business to understand thoroughly every particular thing of this kingdom; and will, as fast as I can, and as opportunity offers, give a true, and impartial account of all; nor shall any thing be concealed. When the king knows all, he will be best able to judge, and direct what he thinks fit: my busines is, in the first place, to give true and intire informations, and, in the next, to obey. Since your lordship is pleased to command such advice, as I can offer relating to the judges, I will do it with all faithfulness, and in order thereunto, as soon as they all return from the circuits, and that other people come to town, upon whose informations I can depend, I will send your lordship a perfect character of every one of them, from the best advice I can get from indifferent persons, and likewise from my own observations. In the mean time, as to the person your lordship mentions, judge Johnson, I am very sorry, he is under the king's displeasure; as I

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shall

shall be for any man, who falls under that great unhappiness. He came into Ireland with my lord chief justice Smith, when he first came hither, one of the commissioners of the court of claims ; and under his favour and countenance he grew up. He is the eldest judge in this kingdom, having sat 16 years upon the bench. Whatever faults he may be guilty of, I dare say, disloyalty was never yet laid to his charge ; his whole conversation hath been so remarkable with people of the best principles, and his behaviour so eminent these last untoward 8 years, even towards his present majesty. It is well known, he has had some private differences with one or two persons ; but it is impossible, any thing of that kind can be brought with prejudice to the king. As for the person, your lordship mentions, the king has appointed to succeed Johnson, Mr. Ingleby, I do not know him ; but, I very well remember, he was one of those, who suffered with other worthy persons under Oates's usurpation and imposition ; for which he ought to be esteemed by all honest men : and I shall pay him all possible regard upon that account, if there were no other reason for it. As for other judges here, whom his majesty is displeased with, my lord president has named to me sir Richard Reynells, and sir Stan-dish Harstowne. For the first I can say nothing know-ingly, but what all the world knows, that he is a very able man. He came over hither a young man, 5 or 6 years before the king's restoration : he has got a very good estate purely by his practice in the law, before he was a judge, since the king's restoration : he was of the coun-cil, as much with the Irish as the English ; and so he will

will again, when he is out, in all probability. In his station, as a judge, no man can carry the prerogative higher, than he does: he pretends to blame his friends in England, and thinks, he fares the worse for their sakes, who are not so good as they ought to be: no man can make greater professions of duty and loyalty to the king, than he does. He is not returned from the circuit; which he went with lord chief justice Keyting, who all parties will own to be a good man; and to him I refer for an account of the other's principles, they being very intimately acquainted. As for sir Standish Harstowne, I can say nothing but from my own observation of his behaviour in the place he is, as a baron of the exchequer; where the king is more immediately concerned, than in any other court; and he certainly understands the business there perfectly well, and, by all that appears to me, does his duty very well. As to his principles, I have never heard any thing amiss: he has a very good estate; the bulk of which is old interest, he deriving from sir Thomas Standish, who was his grandfather. If I might advise in this matter, I could wish, that by your lordship's means to be a judge here might be a step towards preferment in England: then probably men of better abilities and more learning would be judges here, than have sometimes been. And I am sure, it would be infinitely more for his majesty's service to have all those places supplied with men from England, than by any, who are here upon the place.

When your lordship considers, that I have given you this trouble by your own command, you will forgive

LETTERS OF

the tediousness of it, and believe, that I am with all possible respect,

My Noble Lord,
 Your Lordship's
 most faithful and most humble servant,
 CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, April 10. 1686.

A MAN must not brag of his merits ; but yet I may tell you, that you may, as opportunity serves, when you find others endeavouring to do me ill offices, (which is never wanting from men, who have a mind to the employment, which another is in) lay before the king my good deeds. I came hither on the 9th of january ; at which time the warrants were not issued for paying the army the quarter, which was due to them the 29th of september before ; so that there was then actually six months' pay due to the whole army. The first thing I did, was to sign the warrants for the september pay. I likewise ordered the muster-master general to send out the commissaries to muster the army for the quarter ending the 25th of december last ; and as soon as they were returned, and the rolls made up, which was by the 20th of february (for the commissaries cannot be less than a month abroad) I issued the warrants for the pay of that quarter likewise ; and the whole army was paid by the 10th of march : so that, in truth, the whole army have received six months' pay in less than three months' time ; for I have been

been but three months here this very day. And there is nothing due to the army, but the quarter ending the 25th of march last ; which, god willing, shall be entirely paid to them before the 16th of may. I dare say, no army in the world is better paid. What may be thought now, I cannot tell ; but, at another time, the paying so much money in so little time, and the keeping the army so even, would not have been thought a little thing, nor ill service. This quick paying of the army makes the money circulate, and does the revenue good ; and in a great measure will put an end to the occasion of impresting money from the treasury. But however I have put an absolute end to that, if the officers please ; for I have declared, whoever has occasion of money, if they will acquaint me with it, I will order the impresting of what they desire ; for which they shall pay nothing to the receiver general : so that, I am sure, there ought to be no more complaints of that. Another thing that I have done is this : quickly after my arrival complaint was made to me by several officers of the foot, that the deductions for clothes and accoutrements were so great, that the soldiers could not live ; they having, in some regiments, but two pence a day to live upon : and some collectors told me, they were offered 600l. by tradesmen to have the cloathing of their regiments ; which they thought a very unconscionable thing, to get so much money into their own pockets out of the poor soldiers' bellies. I confess, I thought it very hard, that the king should allow 6d. a day, and the poor soldiers have but 2d. of it. I called a council of war, where were present all the field officers in town, both horse and foot ; and they agreed to a rule,

and

and upon every particular, that should be furnished to the soldiers; and that each man should have 4d. a day in money for every day in the year. I know, some of the officers are dissatisfied at this order; though by far the major part agreed to it. I am sure, the soldiers are pleased; and, I hope, the king will not be offended. It would certainly have been of ill consequence to have had some of the army been paid 4d. a day, others 2d. $\frac{3}{4}$, and others but 2d.; which was the case: it is nothing to me.

Speaking of the cloathing of the army puts me in mind to tell you of a particular. My lord Arran (who loved to get money) left the cloathing of the regiment of guards to each particular captain to take care of his own company; which got him the perfect love of the officers. My lord of Offory has ordered it otherwise, and sent orders to the receiver general (at least, it is come in his name) to pay the deductions no more to the captains; but that he will appoint one to take care of the cloathing of the regiment. This makes a loud noise among the officers; and, I doubt, it will not be represented in England to his advantage. I know, you are concerned for the welfare of that good lord, and so am I; and therefore I thought fit to tell you this, that you may take what notice you think fit of it. Having nothing more to tell you at present relating to the publick, I will entertain you with a little relating to myself; not to give you any trouble, but to lie by you, and to improve, as you see occasion at any time. It may, when that time happens, be represented to the king, that I am here with less benefit than any of my predecessors. Not to speak of my not giving the commissions

missions to the army (which, I know, is not to be touched upon) the lord lieutenant always had a troop, or regiment; the pay of which was something towards his entertainment: and all his gentlemen at large rid in the guards, which was a maintenance to them. I will presume to say, I, who have none of these advantages, do live as handsomely, as any of my predecessors; as much to the king's honour, and am as well, and as creditably attended: which, I hope, may one day, as opportunity falls, be taken notice of; at least, so far, as to get some preferments in the army for the young men about me; who, I would be glad, should fare the better for their dependence on me. I have said enough of this matter; and ask your pardon for saying so much. God almighty keep you and yours. Yesterday colonel James Dempsey brought me yours of the 28th. I have long known him, and take him to be a very honest man; and shall make good use of him, without entering at all into matters relating to my lord T—. I have written you a long letter to the treasury by this packet, representing the state of the revenue here, and the charge upon it. I suppose, you read those letters yourself, before any body else does; so that, if you do not like any thing I say, you may send it to me back again; and I will alter it, as you direct.

To the Lord Treasurer.

Dublin Castle, April 13. 1686.

BEFORE this you have my lord Dungan with you; of whom I gave you some account in my last. His going

going over makes a great discourse here, as in truth most things do ; for some or other will comment upon all that is done. Those officers of the army, who are lately come out of England, say, he is gone upon his uncle lord T—'s direction to kiss the king's hand for a troop of horse ; which, they say, he is to have upon the changes : and truly that seems very likely. But others will have it, that he is become a statesman, and that he is gone upon some deep matters relating to the catholick cause ; which suggestion comes from those of that religion, and is grounded upon Dr. Moore's (a physician) being gone with him, who is a man of great account among that party ; and is looked upon to be so subtle and designing a man, that he would not go over purely in a compliment to that young lord. It is nothing to me, what he is gone about ; but it is no harm, you should know what is talked ; and, if it come in your way, you may the more observe, what you hear there of this Moore, and of the young lord ; who is a very pratling, impertinent youth, and forward enough, and is so looked upon here. You will think me very much at leisure, that I entertain you with these matters : though I have not much of importance to tell you, having written so largely to you of late, both publick and private letters ; yet I cannot let a post depart without a few lines to you. What you mentioned in 2 of your letters, that my lord president had orders to write to me concerning the outlawries, I find yet nothing of ; for, though I have had 3 letters from him since that time, that you first told me so, yet he has not in any of them said one word to me of that matter : which I do not tell you, that you should say any thing to him upon it, but that

that you may see, he does not always make haste in answering letters, though there may be sometimes matters of concern in them ; as, I assure you, that affair is of no small one. However, by what you told me, I am the better prepared to advise and consider of it. And now, that I may keep my word in writing but a few lines to you, I will end here with my prayers for you and all yours.

Since my last major Billingsley has received an alarm, that he is to be removed, and to be lieutenant colonel of some other regiment ; which he seems much troubled at. He says, to bring a major of a private regiment over his head to be lieutenant colonel of the guards, and to make him lieutenant colonel of a private regiment, is neither for his reputation, nor advantage ; that to be major of the royal regiment of guards is better, and more honourable, than to be lieutenant colonel of any other regiment. Whether I do him good in telling you this, I know not ; but I am sure, I do him no harm. When I left England, I remember, the king had a very good opinion of this gentleman ; and truly I do not know, that he deserves the contrary : he is certainly a very honest man ; and all, who know him, of all sorts say, he is an excellent officer.

In this letter I sent a petition from the company belonging to the Portsmouth yacht.

To Mr. Blathwait.

Sir, Dublin Castle, April 13. 1686.

I HAVE but little to add to what I writ last, more than to send you the scheme of the Irish army and quarters, as it was taken for the last december muster: and every quarter you shall have a fresh one, when there is any considerable change, either in officers, or quarters. We are fain to change the quarters, of the horse especially, oftener perhaps than is done in England; but it is for the conveniency of the troops. As, for instance, when a troop of horse have eaten up all the hay in the town where they are, I am fain sometimes to remove them to another place 15 or 20 miles off, where there are good provisions; which does good to the country. And sometimes both horse and foot are removed, and sent abroad in small parties to look after the tories; which employment has taken up many of the army since I came hither: and by that means the whole country is almost in perfect tranquillity; of which I shall very speedily send over a full account, with a list of all those loose people, who have been taken since my being here, and how many of them have been executed. In the scheme of the army you will find not only an exact account of all the officers, and private men, who were mustered; but likewise, in a column by themselves, the number of common men, who have been entertained since the preceding muster. I likewise send you a view of the number of new men, who were entertained in the army at the last september muster; by which you will see clearly, what new men

men have been admitted into the army since his majesty's coming to the crown ; for before the september muster there were very few, or no men discharged. The bulk of the new men, mentioned in both musters, are in the rooms of those discharged ; there being not many dead, and but few run away. That which I observe the most is, that those, who are discharged out of the army, do generally go for England ; which I am the more troubled at, in regard, that the main thing wanting in this kingdom are people. I would be glad to know the method, which is practised in England, concerning the putting men out of the army ; whether the colonels, or captains have liberty of dismissing men out of pay, whenever they think fit, at their own pleasure. Where you find blanks in the scheme, those officers have never appeared ; at least the most of them : and, I am told, they stay in England to expect better commands ; which certainly is not well. But all that I can do, is not to take off their checks ; which I shall not do, without very good ground. You now want the pay of the officers and soldiers of this army ; which is transcribing for you, and you shall have it in my next. I shall very speedily send you an exact scheme of the trade of this kingdom, both of the export and import ; which, I believe, has not yet been seen in England. Since my last, my lord treasurer has sent me an answer, from the commissioners of the customs in England, to the representation of the commissioners of the revenue here concerning the plantation trade ; which I mentioned to you. I shall shortly send a reply to it ; and then I will trouble myself no more in that controversy.

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You

You see, I am now entered into a correspondence with you : I hope, you will keep it up. I am,
Sir,

Your very humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

I have lately sent my lord treasurer an exact map of Ireland, with marks to distinguish, which are horse quarters, and which foot, and where the collector of his majesty's revenue lives in each county ; so that it may appear, where all the king's concerns lie in every county : perhaps he will present it to the king.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, April 17. 1686.

ON thursday at six in the morning I had notice brought me, that the yacht was arrived at Dunlary with my lord chancellor. I immediately sent my coach to attend him : he came straight to the castle ; and was with me before 10 of the clock. He gave me the king's letters ; the one constituting him lord chancellor, upon which I presently gave order for preparing his patent ; the other to my lord primate, directing him to deliver me the seal ; which was done, and yesterday before noon the patent was sealed in my presence. I appointed a council at 3 of the clock in the afternoon ; where, according to the directions of the king's letter, sir Ch. Porter took the oath of chancellor, and the usual oaths ; and then I delivered the seal to him : so that he is now in full possession of his office ;

office ; and there has not been one minute of time lost in executing the king's commands. He keeps the first seal this morning : he dined with me the day he came to town ; and I dare say, he will own to be satisfied with my treatment of him. As I shall live, as I ought to do, with whomever the king sends hither, according to the station he is in ; so to those, I have been obliged to upon the score I was to sir Ch. Porter, I shall be less reserved, than to those I do not know. He has already had opportunities to declare to above 40 people the king's resolution, not to have the acts of settlement shaken ; which does much please people here : for such discourses run like wild-fire through the town ; and I verily believe, it was written into all parts of the kingdom by the thursday's post. The declaration does me good ; for now all the discourse of the town is — You see, my lord lieutenant told us true ; and the king will have the acts of settlement preserved, notwithstanding what the Irish talk of their interest at court. My lord chancellor has said to those, who have asked him, whether there should be any alteration of the judges, (which, he told me, have been very many) that he knows nothing of it ; that he had heard it spoken of in England, but that it was not resolved of ; and he did believe, there was some stop in it : and yet, he told me, he had been assured here, that Mr. Nugent had made his robes ; to which I said nothing, but smiled. But, it is very true, when I writ to my lord president of the reports here, and named Mr. Nugent in that letter, he had then actually made his robes ; if the word may be taken of the draper, who sold the cloth, and of the taylor, who made them. There are those here, who have been so inquisitive,

quisitive, as to inform themselves thus narrowly. And, about a fortnight since, a roman catholick (who told me of it himself) being in company with Mr. Nugent, and 5 or 6 others, said — I wonder we have heard nothing out of England by the late packets of the changes amongst the judges ; which all the former letters were so full of. Nugent answered ; I believe, that matter is at a little stand for the present. It has been much debated ; and our people are mad : some, that might be judges, will not ; but, whatever is done, I am sure, I shall be a judge this next term. After this I leave it to you to consider of his wisdom, and even his abilities too. I have received the king's letter by William Legg for the making him governour of the fort at Kinsale ; which I have already dispatched, as far as is in my sphere. I think, I need say nothing to you of my kindnes to him, when you consider the friendship that was between our fathers : in a word, I will leave it to him to make report of me. Last night came in two packets from England, in which I had yours of the 8th, and 10th instant ; which I do now acknowledge, and will in my next answer whatever I now omit. I need say nothing in answer to that part of your's of the 8th, which relates to our new chancellor ; only by what I have said you see, there are no alterations in the civil government brought by him ; which perhaps will make you gaze ; though a wise man can wonder at nothing, that is done, or left undone. As for what you would have done in case Mr. Rice should be made a judge, you may be sure, it shall be done, though you had not said half so much, as you have done upon it. Sir John Ivory has been with me, and I will do him all the kindnes, that is in my power.

power. I shall, in my next to my lord president, represent to him, that it looks strange, that William Legg, being governour of so considerable a fort, should not have a company; which all former governours have had. When I do it, (which you will find by my letter) you will, I am sure, do what lies in you towards the advancing his request.

As to your's of the 10th, I shall say nothing to what you mention concerning what I writ to you in mine of the 27th past to the treasury, till I receive your full answer to it; and then, if it be not as I desired in mine, I will pass the commission for inserting Mr. Aubery, that the king's busines may not stop; and will dispute the busines (if I am not satisfied with your answer) with you afterwards. The controversy can do no harm: it will be only between us two; and purely upon what is most for the king's service, without any self concerns on either side; and reason must carry it; which, I am sure, I will submit to; for, I think, I am never obstinate, where a third is concerned. A man may propose things, which, according to the apprehension the proposer has of them, may really be reasonable; but, upon full deliberation with others, may be found neither reasonable, nor fit: and, I am sure, I will never insist upon a thing, because I have proposed it. And so, I hope, I need say nothing for my own justification, till you tell me, I vary from what I profess; which, I hope, you will do. I must own, my lord prefident has sent me word, since I writ to you about lord Mountjoy, that the king will not have his Irish army encamp this summer; but of the outlawries he has not yet said any thing; so that I may conclude
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between you and me, that either he has forgot it, or somebody else has influence upon him to make him delay sending orders, when he is directed: but I need say no more to you of this matter, than I did in my last; I only repeat it often, that you may know as much, as if you and I were talking every day together. I will say no more to you of Mr. Kingdon; because it is against my principle to find fault with men, who cannot answer for themselves; and what I did say to you, I thought, I could not avoid, the commissioners telling it me upon the occasion they did. But I must do Mr. Price the right to assure you, that to this minute he never mentioned Mr. Kingdon to me; nor has he ever in any discourse to me seemed to aim at the getting the entire management into his own hands: nor can it be, if I am rightly understood, as I will endeavour to be, when I come to reply to the answer I expect from you. I often send for him to me, but he is very seldom alone with me; and I am so aware of him, that I resolved at first to have no commerce with him upon my own particular account; because, in all events, it is best not to put one's self into the power of any man, who is under one, if it can be avoided. God almighty keep you and yours.

To the KING.

Dublin Castle, April 17. 1686.

I RECEIVED last night the honour of your majesty's of the 6th instant; and, as to your majesty's employing some of the native catholicks of the country in your service,

vice, I hope, your majesty is not offended with what I presumed to write to you upon that subject. It was only to yourself, sir ; and whatever you do will not only find obedience from me, but shall be justified to the utmost against all repinings whatsoever, if there are any. As your majesty's often gracious professions, that the acts of settlement shall not be touched, does extremely quiet the minds of men ; so nothing can more encourage and encrease the trade of the kingdom, (from whence your majesty's revenue does principally arise) than men's being secure in their property. As to that, which is called here the English interest, it consists of several sorts of people ; of whom your majesty shall have a particular account, as soon as it is possible for me lay it before you. When I have your majesty's orders for sending over any of your troops from hence, or receiving any from England, they shall not be long in executing. I doubt, your majesty will lose a good officer here, major Lawleſs, who has never stirred from his quarters : he has always, from my first landing, written to me every week. He went from Kinsale to Cork to the assizes, where it was necessary for him to be, and is there fallen very ill ; and, by the account he gives me of himself in another hand writing, I fear, he will not recover. On easter eve the roman catholick primate, and bishop Tyrrell brought me your majesty's commands, from my lord president, concerning them. Whether they receive from me those offices, which they expect, I will refer myself to what they themselves will say : I have told them, they may come to me, whenever they please. About a week since one Stephen Fay,

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a secular priest, sent me a petition with an appeal to your majesty. I immediately sent for primate Magwire, and gave it him, and asked him, what he had a mind should be said to Fay : he desired me, that I would only direct, that he should apply himself to his superiors ; which I did, and have heard nothing of him since. This, I think, sir, was pursuant to your majesty's directions ; and therefore I will continue the same, if other like occasions offer, till I receive your majesty's directions to the contrary. If your majesty would see the appeal to you, I will send you a copy upon your command. I very well know, sir, how penal it is (even by laws made before the reformation) to hinder appeals to be made to the king. I do not say this, sir, that I am afraid to hinder or promote what your majesty shall direct ; but only to justify my giving your majesty this trouble ; which I humbly beg your pardon for, and your permission, that I may give these accounts to yourself. When your majesty was pleased to tell me, that you would have the acts of settlement not touched ; you told me at the same time, that you would be glad to find some way to relieve such hard cases here, as you shall judge worthy of your bounty : which has made me willing to hearken to every thing, that has been suggested. And, upon frequent discourses with all sorts of people, I do find, that another commission of grace, whereby men might have their estates confirmed to them, would not only give general satisfaction ; but, I believe, would bring in a vast sum of money, enough to enable you to gratify all who want. This, sir, is but an opinion grounded upon general and occasional discourses ; and nothing

HENRY EARL OF CLARENDON. 179

thing ought to be attempted further, without your majesty's directions. But, if you please to give my lord chancellor and me leave to consider of it, we will be able, without noise, in no long time neither, to lay before you some proposals towards that end ; which, I hope, will not be displeasing to you : if you dislike them, sir, they will be in your own power to burn them ; and they will never be heard more of. I must humbly beg your majesty's pardon for this presumption, and your favourable acceptance of the services, which are offered with all submission by,

Sir,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,
CLARENDON.

To the Lord CHANCELLOR.

Dublin Castle, April 17. 1686.

I GAVE your lordship the trouble of a long letter so lately, that I needed not have given you any now, but only to give you an account, that on Thursday my lord chancellor Porter arrived here. As soon as I had the king's letters, I immediately directed his patent to be prepared; and yesterday he was sworn, and I delivered him the seal at council: so that he is now in full possession of his office, and this morning he kept the first seal in order to the term; which begins on Wednesday here, as it does in England. And for the rest, I suppose, he will give

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your lordship an account himself. I have no more to add at present, but that I am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, April 17. 1686.

ON Thursday last my lord chancellor Porter arrived here; of which, I suppose, himself will give a particular account. Immediately upon the receipt of the king's letters I directed his patent to be prepared; and on Friday in the afternoon he was sworn, and the seals delivered to him at council: so that he is now in full possession of his office, and has this day kept the first seal, the term beginning on Wednesday next. Last night I received your lordship's favour of the 10th instant; and, as to what your lordship is pleased to say of not advising with me beforehand about the alterations, his majesty has thought fit to make here, I hope, I am rightly understood; and that I shall not be thought to aim at any thing upon my own account, but in order to the king's service. And, as I shall be always pleased with whatever method the king shall prescribe for the doing of his business, so I shall always depend upon your lordship's friendship and kindness: and, if my zeal to serve the king as well as any body can do does make me sometimes apprehend, that I want countenance, I hope, your lordship will

will believe, (for, I assure you, it is a great truth) that I make my moan to none but yourself; and such weaknesses, I am sure, your lordship will forgive. And so you shall have no further trouble upon these matters. As to the persons, your lordship tells me, the king has pitched upon to be judges here, as soon as I receive his majesty's letters, they shall be dispatched. I have nothing more to trouble your lordship with at present, but to beseech you to believe, that I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most obedient humble servant,
CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord Treasurer.

Dublin Castle, April 20. 1686.

BY this post you will receive a letter to the treasury, in answer to what you writ about Mr. Weaver. I have stated the matter as fully, and as plainly as I can: and the man ought in justice to have his money, or his land; for the king ought to have nobody's land without paying for it. And it is a most wonderful thing, how such a matter, so just, should hang so long; and so much money unnecessarily spent since: but there is one particular in this affair, which, I knew not well, how to bring into my publick letter; and yet, in my opinion, it ought to be known, even by the king himself. Mr. Weaver being with me, and urging his busines as far as he could in order to obtain a favourable report, as he called it, I told him,

him, that, I thought, he might as well allow the abatement of 500l, being but an executor, as his father-in-law the alderman to whom the land belonged; especially since he was allowed so in the hundred for his principal money from the time the abatement was made; to which the poor man with tears said, then, I fear, I shall have but little of the money. I asked him, what he meant by that: he said, about a year since he sent to his son (a young man at the temple) to try, whether he could make a friend at court undertake to get him his money, by giving him something for it; and that his son had found out one Mr. Hastings (who was wounded last year in the West) who had undertaken to get the busineſs done for 500l. But, finding it long about, and his children growing up, to whom, he said, the money for this land belonged, in december last Weaver went to my lord Tyrconnel, (being introduced to him by a friend) and offered him 1000l. to get his busineſs done; which my lord undertook, wondering much at the hardness of the case: so that he said very pitifully, I know not whether my son be bound to make good the 500l; but, I doubt, my lord Tyrconnel will expect his 1000l; and then, if I am allowed but 319l. 2s. 5d. $\frac{1}{4}$, there will come but 169l. to myself. I told him, I could say nothing to those bargains; nor in truth can I. I am sure, I will make none of them; and when I have discovered them, that they are known, I have done.

Major Lawless died the last week; of which I have written to colonel Macarty, to whom he was major. I have upon this occasion represented to my lord president, that William Legg, who is governour of Charles fort, has
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no company ; which in my opinion he ought to have, and has always been the practice here : I am sure, you will advance his pretension what you can. I am told from a very good hand, that it was resolved not long since in England, that the Irish clergy here should appear abroad in their habits ; but that by the last letters from England contrary orders came from the king ; which my author, of that religion, is very well pleased at : for, he says, he knows, such a publick appearing would give so great a dissatisfaction, that it would undo the kingdom ; besides that no man could be responsible for the mischief and disorders, that might happen from the rabble : which is undoubtedly true ; and, I hope, it will not be attempted. You will remember, upon major Lawless's death a pension of 200l. per annum falls to the king ; which was placed upon the concordatums. I hope, the king will let it die ; for that fund is too much charged, considering for what uses it was designed, and how much need there is, that it should be laid out upon the forts and buildings. The reparations of this no-castle are very great ; and it is the worst, and most inconvenient lodging in the world. That you may see the constant certain charge upon the concordatums, I send you the enclosed account, together with a list of the uncertain expences, which must be paid out of it ; of which you shall have a certain particular account every quarter.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, April 20. 1686.

I HAVE very little to trouble your lordship with since my last, but only to acquaint you, that yesterday I had an account from Cork, that colonel Lawles was dead there. He has been a long time in a consumption : he was a very good officer, and very well known to the king : he was major to colonel Macarty. I beg your lordship to move the king to fill up his place.

I omitted to give your lordship an account in my last, that colonel Legg arrived here with my lord chancellor, and brought me the king's letter for making him governour of Charles fort near Kinsale ; which is dispatched. I think fit to represent to your lordship, that he has no company ; which the governour of that fort hath hitherto always had. I do not know, that the king hath yet disposed of the company late sir Nich. Armourer's ; and there are other companies void, of which your lordship has an account.

By the death of major Lawles a pension of 200l. per annum falls to the king ; which I have represented to my lord treasurer, that it might not be revived, it being placed upon the concordatum ; which is a fund designed for other uses, which are most necessary, and which the king has a constant account of. I have nothing further to trouble

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ble your lordship with at present, but the assurance of my ever being,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDRON. C. P. S.

April 21.

Last night, after I had ended my letter to your lordship, I received yours of the 13th instant; and about 9 at night my lord chancellor brought me the king's letters concerning the three judges; for obeying whereof I have given the necessary orders, of which your lordship shall have a particular account in my next.

To Lord Dartmouth.

Dublin Castle, April 20. 1686.

I know, your lordship does not love to be too often troubled with letters; which is the reason, I have hitherto deferred answering your lordship's favour of the 16th past: and likewise because I expected before this to have had the accounts, your lordship mentions, of the office of the ordnance here; which, I suppose, will now come speedily. And till I have them, I will say nothing of those affairs; that there may be no distraction by letters going to and again, till the whole matter comes over.

This is therefore only to acquaint your lordship with your brother's arrival, with my lord chancellor Porter. I do verily believe, I am gladder to have him here, than

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he is to be here himself. We will all endeavour to make him welcome, that he may not long too soon to be at home again. I have dispatched his busines, as far as was within my way ; and his patent was the first, that was sealed by my lord chancellor. I have represented to my lord president, that your brother has, as yet, no company ; which all the governours of that fort have hitherto always had ; and, I am sure, it seems to me most reasonable, that he should have. And here are several companies vacant, of which I have given account : so that one may be easily given him, if you have not some there, who will have the filling of all places here. I have written of this matter to my brother ; who, I am sure, will do all that he can do towards the obtaining this company : but, I hope, your lordship's own interest will prevail in a greater affair than this. I shall give you no further trouble at present, but beg you to believe, that I am from my heart,

My good Lord,
 Your Lordship's
 most affectionate and most humble servant,
 CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To Colonel M A C A R T Y.

Sir, Dublin Castle, April 20. 1686.

I HAD sooner answered your's of the 25th past, if I had had any thing worth giving you the trouble of a letter. I am now to acquaint you, that your honest major Lawless died the last week at Cork, and was buried there ;
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of which I received an account from captain Colgrave yesterday. I hope, you will think of supplying his place before you leave England. This good man, who is dead, was a very good officer, and very careful in whatever he was directed to do, and kept close to his duty ; which every officer does not love to do. I hope, it will not now be long, before we shall have you in this kingdom ; which will be a particular satisfaction to me : and, in the mean time, I shall in this note congratulate the honour the king hath done you in making you major general of his army here, which you so well deserve, and which is so much for the king's service ; and in which you have the perfect well wishes of,

Sir,

Your most affectionate humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, April 24. 1686.

IN a postscript to my last I told you, I had received your's of the 13th instant; which I come now to answer: though there is not need of saying much upon it, till I have Mr. solicitor's opinion, as fully as I expect. Only I think fit to tell you, that the reason, I sent to you for a list of 8 or 10 such patent officers as you thought had forfeited their places, was, because the very words in your's of the 16th past were, that you knew of 8 or 10, who had done things, whereby their offices might be forfeited; but you have now explained your meaning. The

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statute of H. VII. does only concern officers accountants; that is, those, who do finger the money, and are therefore accountable; of which sort of men the auditor general, and the clerk of the pells are none. But, I say, as soon as the king's council are come to a resolution, I will proceed in the manner you prescribe, and with all possible caution; and whomever we shall think fit to begin with, you shall first have account thereof, of the person designed to be outed, and the reasons why, and likewise of the person, whom I intend to put into his room; that I may have your advice in the choice, and approbation of the method of our proceeding: and so, for the present, I have done with this subject.

You will see, by my letter to my lord Sunderland, what I have written of the judges. For want of other things to entertain him with, I thought fit to tell him those discourses: if he would think of the business, and men of this country, such kind of stories would let him see some of their tempers; but, I think, I need not take much pains to inform him; for, I doubt, it is much at one, whether things are known or not. However, there is only my own labour lost; which I am not very covetous in sparing to you, who do not think knowledge a burden. I think it fit to give the characters of as many men, as I can meet with, who are any way considerable: you will find by time, whether those, I give, are true, or not. I have already given you the character of Mr. Nugent; to which I will only add for entertainment, that yesterday my lord chancellor asked me, whether I was acquainted with Nugent? To whom I answered, (for I never had said any thing to him of him) that my acquaintance was very

very small ; he having been only a few times with me, upon ordinary matters : to which he replied, he is a very silly fellow, and grows very troublesome. Mr. Daly I never saw, till thursday last. He seems a sober man : he has the character of one of the best lawyers of that party ; there being in truth but three above, or equal to him, viz. Nangle, Garret Ditton, and St. Rice. He is reputed a modest man : he is perfect Irish, of old Irish race : he is very bigoted, and national ; and yet all that he is worth in the world is of his own acquiring, and new title. He was bred a clerk to Patrick Darcy ; a man famously known by all, who know any thing of the late wars in this kingdom. Certainly he did not intend to have accepted of this place, till he had heard again out of England ; but was prevailed with, by some of the zealous, to accept it without further hesitation.

Captain Robert Fitz-Gerald hath written to a friend here, (I had an account of it from him, to whom the letter was written) that he had spent a fortnight at the Bath with lord Tyrconnel ; and that my lord had told him, he could not promise him to get him into the army ; but that he would undertake to get him any thing else in the kingdom, which he had a mind to. I thought fit to tell you this, because I know the relation that gentleman has to you, and the kindness you have done him : and it is fit, you should know every thing. We expect, the next letters will bring us an account of that lord's return from Bath ; and probably of his motions hitherwards. When he comes, he comes. You will see, I have written to my lord president, that the king's letter, which directs me to dispense with giving the oath of supremacy to the

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new judges, should be entered at the signet office at Whitehall, as well as the letters for giving the judges their places. I would not be thought scrupulous, and therefore I have done the business already; but I desire, it may now be supplied: I am advised, it is fit it should be so; and, I suppose, there will be no great difficulty made in granting what I desire. Though I do not expect any alteration (in my time) of publick affairs; yet I would not be willing to be questioned for having obeyed the king: which possibly may be the case, if all letters and instruments are not exactly according to the form. You will please to take that notice, you think fit, hereof. This is the first time the oath of supremacy has ever been dispensed with in a judicial place; and it is in breach of a law: which I may say to you, though to nobody else, at this time, as the world now goes. God keep you and all yours.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, April 24. 1686.

I GAVE your lordship an account in my last, that I had received your's of the 13th, and likewise the king's letters and directions concerning the 3 judges; and that I had given the necessary orders in obedience thereunto: and Mr. Nugent's patent passed the seal yesterday. But on thursday in the evening Mr. Daly came to me, (whom I had never seen before) and after great professions of duty to the king, and that he would be ready to serve him in any capacity, he told me, that it was not of his own seeking

seeking to be a judge, for he would really lose 400l. a year ; and therefore desired, that I would not take it amiss, if he continued at the bar this term, and did not take out his patent, till he heard again out of England. I told him, I had signed his warrant, which he might have, when he pleased ; and that, if he did not take it, I would not immediately call upon him. I find, he had much the same discourse with my lord chancellor : but, I perceive, he has changed his mind ; for yesterday morning he sent for his warrant : so, I suppose, he will take out his patent. As I have thus given your lordship an account of these 2 judges ; so, I think, I ought to inform you of the behaviour of those, who go out. Sir Standish Harstowne, and Johnson are in England : so there is only sir Richard Reynell here ; whom I sent for the next morning after I had your lordship's letter, and acquainted him with the king's pleasure : to which he answered, that he did very cheerfully submit, and should always do so to whatever determination his majesty should make concerning him. He said, his religion and his profession had taught him loyalty to the king, and he had practised it ever since he was in a capacity of doing it ; and, if he knew, what was most acceptable to the king, he would shew his duty by doing it. He then asked me, if he might return to his practice. I told him, I knew nothing to the contrary ; and that, I believed, his majesty did not concern himself, to what callings his subjects betook themselves, as long as they behaved themselves dutifully. Having thus given your lordship an account of these affairs, which I thought fit enough for you to know, I have but one thing more to say relating thereunto ; and that

that is concerning myself: which is this. I do desire, with your lordship's leave, that the king's letter, directing me to dispense with the judges taking the oath of supremacy, may be entered at the signet office, as the others are.

I have nothing more at present, relating to the king's service, to entertain your lordship with; and therefore shall conclude this trouble with beseeching you to believe, that I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most faithful humble servant,
CLARENCEON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, April 27. 1686.

ON funday I received your's of the 17th instant; and how I have been owned to be in the right in the letters, which you caused to be delivered from me, and how far any apology was made to me, you know before this by the copy of the letter, which I sent you, from a great lord. I am too well acquainted with the method of our world to expect apologies: if my letters do produce the effect, that no more hardships will be put upon me in my government, I shall be a mighty man; but it is more than I can expect, considering the tempers and humours of men. I will never touch more upon ecclaircissements, being abundantly satisfied in what you say; and you shall never have cause to be otherwise with me. I have signed the quarter's establishment for the officers belonging to the

the revenue, due at christmas last, without any scruple : I will follow your method for the future in approving of those officers, and appointing their salaries.

I have by this packet sent you a large dispatch to the treasury chamber, concerning the plantation trade ; in which controversy, I think, the commissioners here have the advantage of the commissioners of the customs in England in point of reason ; and, I am sure, their assertions in matter of fact are true, and plain, without any specious glosses ; which I cannot say of those from the custom-house in London. If you please to let it be laid before the king and council, as a matter of state, all parties will submit to the determination, that shall be given from thence : and now I have laid it there, I have done.

I send this by tory Hamilton ; who is not unknown to you. He is amongst the unfortunate, as his colonel sends him word ; and therefore he goes over to see, what by himself and friends he can do. I do assure you, he is as honest a fellow, as ever was born ; and deserves as well from the government, as a man in his circumstances can do, for the successful pains he has taken in suppressing and bringing in the rogues and robbers of the country : therefore, pray, let me desire you to do him what good offices you can. He will be with you, I believe, at least a day before the packet, which goes over in the same boat with him.

The late frequent packets from England make my letters the shorter ; which you have reason to be glad of. God keep you and all yours.

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To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, April 27. 1686.

I RETURN your lordship my most humble thanks for the favour of your letter of the 17th instant, and for your kindness to Mr. Rycaut in obtaining captain Butler's company for him; which I shall always acknowledge, and will make all returns of gratitude to your lordship to the utmost of my power. I can now tell your lordship, that the two new judges have their patents, and were sworn on saturday: there happened some little dispute yesterday morning upon their coming into court concerning precedence; Mr. Nugent insisting much, that he came into the place of sir Richard Reynell, who was the second judge, and therefore that he ought to sit in the same place; to which judge Lyndon would not submit: and, I am told, the contest was as brisk, as if it had been between two women. But my lord chancellor settled it by acquainting them, that there never was any dispute in England in such cases; for it was known there, that, when the king thought fit to set aside a judge, though it were the second of the court, the new judge always took the youngest place in that court: and so all that matter is now well.

I have lately been informed by some roman catholicks of this country, that there is a general meeting of the roman catholick clergy, and persons of quality of that religion, appointed to be in this city on the 15th of the next month; which, I thought fit to acquaint his majesty with by your lordship, that I may know his pleasure; and whether

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ther he approves of the said meeting: which I the rather do, because those, who have acquainted me with it, seem to think those meetings not fitting, without the knowledge of the government. And my busines in all these cases is, to lay things truly before your lordship, and then to follow the orders I receive from you; which as they have been, so they always shall be punctually obeyed. I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDRON. C. P. S.

To the Duke of Ormond.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, April 27. 1686.

BY the last packet I had the honour of your grace's letter of the 20th instant; and, since you are pleased to encourage me to give you an account of the affairs here, I shall do it constantly, as there shall be occasion. I have, from my first being here, given the best account of things I could, as I found them; and have, in my letters to my lord president, written pretty freely of every thing: but, I suppose, resolutions concerning this country were to be taken from other informations, than those that came from me; as appears from the changes, that are already made, (of which I gave your grace an account in my last letters) and from more, that will be made in

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the army ; of which I am not yet to know the particulars, though 40 people, who come from England, discourse of them all, and pretend to have seen the commissions at the secretary's office : and, I am sure, several of them will say nothing, but what is true. To avoid tedious repetitions, I will take the liberty to refer your grace to my brother ; who will entertain you, when you are at leisure, with the representations I have made from hence. It is very wonderful, that the revenue here for the last year, ending the 25th of December, should have held out so well, even to what it was the preceding year : I wish this present year may yield as much ; though I greatly doubt it. But, whether my fears are reasonable or not, nothing but a little time can clear : I heartily wish, there may be no ground for the apprehensions I have in that matter. I have by this packet writ a long letter to my lord treasurer, concerning the trade of this kingdom to the plantations ; which is grown to be a controversy between the commissioners of the revenue here and those of the customs in England ; in which, I think, the commissioners here have much the advantage in point of reason. I have begged, it may be laid before the king in council, as a matter of state ; and to the determination, his majesty shall make in it, all parties will cheerfully submit. I beseech your grace to call for those papers, and read them ; and then you will do, as you think most for the king's advantage : and, I hope, I shall not be thought less an Englishman for proposing what is for the benefit of Ireland ; which, if truly considered, is at least as advantageous to the trade of England, as to Ireland.



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land. I beg your grace's pardon for this trouble, and am
with perfect devotion,

Your Grace's
most obedient humble servant,
CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the KING.

Sir, Dublin Castle, April 29. 1686.

THIS bearer, captain William Hamilton, having had
an account from some of his friends in England,
who wish him well, that he has the misfortune to be re-
presented under an ill character to your majesty, I could
not refuse to give him leave to cast himself at your ma-
jesty's feet; and at the same time to assure your majesty,
that, as I found him here under a very good character
from all people, who know him, and as the service he
has done the publick for some years is eminently known,
by his bringing to justice many notorious offenders, who
disturbed the peace of part of this your majesty's king-
dom; so I am bound in justice to him to let your majes-
ty know, with all submission, that I have found him,
since my being here, very active and diligent in your ma-
jesty's service; and has given very good accounts of what
I have employed him in for your service, even with the
hazard of his life. I am afraid, some men are displeased
with him for his great zeal to your majesty's service; but,
I am sure, your majesty will not easily entertain an ill
opinion of a young gentleman, who has been in your ser-
vice ever since he could carry a musket; and who desires

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to spend his life in your service, as I will undertake. I humbly beg your majesty's favourable acceptance of him; and that you will be pleased to afford your pardon, for this presumption, to,

Sir,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,
CLARENDON.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, May-Day 1686.

I HAVE received yours of the 22d past; which is the most comfortable letter I have had since my being here: as all letters must be to a man at the distance I am, to find, that what I do is pleasing to the king; as, I hope, all I shall do will be. For I will still act upon the same plain principle, of doing my duty honestly without any self end, and without partiality to any sort of people; but will be indifferent to all, as, I am sure, I have hitherto been. I shall be very glad to receive the method of paying the army in England; which, when I have, I will practise here, or tell you my reasons, why I do not; which I cannot speak to, till I see it. I doubt not, but the rule I have made concerning the deductions from the soldiers will please the king, because they are all equal in England; that is, there is no more deducted from one regiment than there is from another. It was not so here, when I came; which could not have done well, if it had not been remedied. I am very glad, the king seems sensible,

sible, that he must restrain his bounty in this kingdom : if he does not, he will be aground, before he is aware. I find by Mr. Gwyne, that there is a letter signed for my lord chancellor Porter's having a pension of 1500l. per annum ; which I am glad of, for it is necessary, the place of itself, without appointments from the king, not being worth viis & modis, as the phrase is, 500l. per annum : and a man must live in a handsome port, or else he will hear of it. He is not yet settled, but has taken sir John Cole's house, one of the best new-built houses in the town : it is upon the Strand, and he gives 100l. per annum for it ; which is counted a good rent here. I am confident, he is well pleased with my manner of living towards him : he tells me, he has written his mind very freely to the king concerning this country ; which, he says, he found it necessary to do, because he finds, the Irish have expectations very different from what the king seemed inclined to grant, when he came away. Possibly this may work, and it comes not from me. I find, he is got into a very good acquaintance with the best sort of people here ; which may do well, if he takes his measures from them.

On tuesday the 27th of the last month in the afternoon my closet-keeper brought me a letter sealed up, and directed to me ; which, he said, he found under a chair in the next room to my closet ; which is my withdrawing room. I send you a copy of it. Perhaps it is best to keep it by you, (but you are the best judge) and not to take notice of it at present : the truth is, the substance of this letter is very common discourse in the mouths of most of the Irish popish party ; but I think it best not to send over
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any informations of this kind, till I can do it authentically, and upon good proof, such as will bear examining: And even such, I have some reason to believe, I shall have in a little time from more than one hand. As soon as I have them, you may be sure, they shall be transmitted to you: in the mean time, pray, let me have your advice, whether I should send a copy of this unknown letter (for I do really know no more of it, than I have told you) to my lord Sunderland, and likewise any other informations, that may be brought me upon that kind of subject; or, whether I shall first send them to you, and receive your advice upon them, before I transmit them to any other for the king. I am not much inclined to give great credit to such letters, that are dropped in the dark; but yet, methinks, considering the place and people, they ought not to be quite neglected, nor despised; especially, if there be any ground to believe any thing, that is in these nameless letters. As for instance, reading this unknown letter, this passage "large sums given and promised for swearers and accusers" put me in mind of an oath that was made, and brought to me a good while since; a copy whereof is here likewise enclosed. The party who deposed, Hugh Linsey, I am told, is a roman catholick; and, I am almost confident, I shall know more of this trinketting, if there be not noise made of it too soon: and therefore I should think it best to take no notice, as yet; but still I leave it to you.

Mr. Strong did resolve not to have stirred, till Mr. Aubery had been arrived; (of whom I yet hear nothing) but his relapses come so thick upon him, and he was so very ill and weak the day before yesterday, that I cannot in conscience

conscience presf him to stay longer ; and so he embarks this day for Chester. He tells me, if he recovers his health, he will be here again long before michaelmas. He is beaten to the busines, and understands every tittle of it ; therefore I hope, he will do well : and I long for him back again ; for the commission without him will be very lame. The rest are very good men, industrious, and can drudge ; but they are but 3, and one of them must go a ramble presently into the country, or else we shall not have so good an account of the excise, as we should have. And Mr. Aubery, when he comes, for the first two or 3 months will be a stranger. If Mr. Strong should not do well, or have no mind to return, it will then be a proper time to remember Mr. K—— : though he may want experience, yet, I assure you, he can take pains, and he has a very good understanding. I will endeavour to have always one or two in my mind fit for the em- ployment, if there should at any time be a vacancy of a commissioner ; and, I hope, you will have the like. Here is one, not altogether unknown to you, Mr. Robinson, the surveyor and engineer here. I never knew a better kind of man, nor whose head was more turned to the method of busines: such a man, a commissioner, would better the revenue infinitely. I am sure, he does not know, that I have any such thought for him ; nor do I believe, that ever it came into his own head.

I writ to you on the 24th past by captain Wright ; wherein I recommended to you the paying of his crew, belonging to the yacht. I had a mind to know, what the keeping such a yacht cost the king, and therefore I bid the captain give me an account of the charge ; which

he did, and he seems to have done it exactly : if it may be of any use to you, I send you a copy thereof. The next week there will be a great meeting at the Curragh of Kildare ; where will be several horseraces. Partly to see something of the company and country, and partly for a little air (of which I have yet had none, since my being here) I have resolved to go thither on monday, and will be back on friday ; so that you must not expect to hear from me, till by the packet this day sennight. My wife had a mind to have gone with me ; but then the great lady would have gone too, which I did not think convenient. And whether my wife's staying here will keep her in town, I cannot tell ; nor, I am sure, can I help whatever she does. God keep you and yours.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, May 1. 1686.

HAVING no commands from you, I might have saved your lordship the trouble of this letter ; having at the present nothing to inform you of from hence, but only to acquaint your lordship, that captain Baskerville, a captain in the king's regiment of guards, is very ill, and the doctors do despair of his recovery. I do not use to give notice of things of this kind, before the persons are actually dead ; but my reason of doing it at this time (if such a reason may be allowed for a good one) is, because I am going a little journey on monday. It is only to the Curragh of Kildare ; where there will be a meeting of several of the gentry about horseraces. But my principal

cipal busines is to take a little air (which I have not had, since my being here) for 3 or 4 days; so that I would not have you surprised to hear of this gentleman's death by another hand. If he should die, I humbly beg your lordship to lay before the king Mr. Gilbert; who is, and has been many years, lieutenant to the lieutenant colonel of the regiment: he is a very honest, modest man, and never from his duty. If the king shall be pleased to bestow this company upon him, it will be a great encouragement to those who serve well. I shall be in town again on Friday; or sooner, if any commands come from your lordship; or the king's service require it. I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

May 2.

This morning word is brought me, that captain Baserville is dead: according to the rule, I think, the captain lieutenant of the colonel's company ought to be advanced to the vacant company; who is captain Arthur, a very honest man: he is a roman catholick, and lately bought the employment. If the king please to bestow the company upon him, then lieutenant Gilbert may be preferred to be captain lieutenant. I beg your lordship's pardon for this trouble; but I think it fit for me to represent those officers, whom I think the most deserving, and have the best title to his majesty's favour; which I do with all submission.

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To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, May 8. 1686.

I TOLD you in my last, of this day was a sennight, of the great vacation I was about to give myself; which I have done, and seen a very fine country, and some sport, though we have had but little good weather since. On thursday about noon came in 3 packets from England, and in the evening they were with me at Kildare; in which I had yours of the 27th and 29th past, and 1st instant. Yesterday I returned hither, as I intended; so that my little ramble has not given the least obstruction to his majesty's service: nor will I be ever out of the way, wherever that requires me to be. I wish you joy of the little lodge the king has given you: I have been at it, but it was quickly after the king's restoration. A far less sum will make it to your mind, than would have built a new house; and it stands mighty convenient for the park, which you so much delight in. I heartily wish you a good chapman for Twickenham: but you will not, I doubt, get what it cost my father; who paid roundly for all his purchases, besides what he laid out upon them afterwards; which will not make them yield any thing the more. This discourse puts me in mind of saying, that, I hope, care was taken to secure your money; before my lord Grey was restored to his estate.

What you say concerning the Portsmouth yacht is very reasonable; that, being designed for the service of this kingdom, it ought to be supported out of this revenue. Whatever the mind was of former governors, I think it
very

very reasonable, that the king should lay what additions he pleaseth upon the establishments here, provided he doth not overcharge the revenue: whatever is left, when the charge of the government is defrayed, it is the king's; let him have it into England, or pay it to any persons here, as he shall think fit. I would only be glad, if it may be allowed, that I might make such a bank, as I am directed by my 9th instruction; which would be of greater advantage to the king in point of reputation, than thrice the sum. But as to the business of the yacht; for the arrears, if you please, let them be stated, and paid in England; and, for the future charge, I will undertake to defray it: but indeed the arrear will be too great a burden; and therefore I beg not to be loaded with it. I sent you, in one of my late letters, an estimate of the charge of the yacht, given me by captain Wright: so that I know, whereabouts it will be.

This morning my lord chancellor came to bid me welcome to town; which, it seems, is the custom, though I was so few days away: he shewed me a letter, he had lately from you; which he is much pleased with. You see by my last, what my opinion was of encreasing his salary; which had not been too much, if it had been 1500l. per annum addition to the 1000l. per annum already on the establishment; for with the addition of 500l. per annum, which is now made by the king's letter, the whole profits of the place will scarce amount to 1900l. per annum. I thank you for what you tell me of the king's being so well pleased with the account, sir Jo. Lanier had given him, of my son's regiment: it is a great satisfaction to me, when I hear, he does any thing which
he

he ought to do. I am sure, he knows what he should do; and, I hope, he will take the advice of his friends: and thus I have done with your's of the 27th past. I come now to your other of the 29th; wherein you tell me of the discourse, the king had with you, upon what I writ to him concerning a commission of grace. I told you, in one of my former letters, the reasons, which induced me to do it, though I differed in opinion with you in it. I can assure you, (though I must name some people only to you) that such a commission from the king would, more than any thing else, that can be thought of, settle the minds of the kingdom, and raise a very considerable sum of money, is not only the opinion of my lord primate, and Mr. solicitor general, (perhaps their names would prejudice the busines) but of other very considerable persons, not only English, but even Irish catholicks; for all men of that religion, who have estates, are either confirmed in their old possessions, or in their new acquisitions by the acts of settlement: and they are as much afraid of a breach upon those acts, as the new-interested English, and would give any thing to be secured. And now I find, the king was not displeased with what I writ, I will quickly send over a proposal, with the concurrence of my lord chancellor. As to your's of the 1st instant, it being written by the king's command, I send you herewith a particular answer to it, in a paper by itself, that you may shew it to the king. You tell me, you were commanded to write to me in answer to a part of my last letter to his majesty. Pray, tell me your own opinion (though you cannot the king's) of the other part of it: I doubt, it was upon a nice subject. I sent you a

copy

copy of the letter, as I always do (and will so continue) of all I write to the king, and to my lord president. Sir Robert Hamilton arrived with the last packet, and was immediately with me the last night, upon my coming to town: there was nothing of discourse between us, but common civility. He told me, the king remembered him to me, and that my lord treasurer was very well. He has been with my lord chancellor; and to him he seemed much dissatisfied with lord Tyrconnel, and complained of his unkindness to him: but in the town he sets forth that lord's praises; and he particularly told the arch-bishop of Dublin, that my lord Tyrconnel comes over in great glory, with a commission to command the army in chief, independant of me; and that nothing is done in any affairs, either military, ecclesiastical or civil, but by that lord's advice. I do not tell you this any otherwise, than as it was told me, without any pain that I am in; for I am fully satisfied with what you formerly writ to me upon that subject. I have told you heretofore, how I mean to live with my lord Tyrconnel; which, by the grace of god, I will observe; and for sir Robert Hamilton, I have been long acquainted with his temper, with his little truth, and less integrity; but I will live with him as well, as I ought to do with a man, who is a privy counsellor. He talks, as if the king and he were all one; and, I doubt, the king has talked very freely to him: for, about two months since, I saw a letter from him, signed at length R. Hamilton, to a clergyman here, saying, that the king had told him, what my lord lieutenant had written concerning sir R. Colvill, and took pains to justify himself, that he had done sir R. C. no ill offices.

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He further told the arch-bishop of Dublin, that Mr. Bridges was out of the commission of the revenue, and Mr. Keightley was in his room ; and, when the arch-bishop told him, there was no such matter; he seemed to wonder, and said, he had reason to expect to be a commissioner himself, and, upon his application to his majesty, the king told him, he could not do it ; for he had put out only Bridges, and filled that place with Keightley ; and so he could not provide for him. This is but tittle tattle : however it is fit you should know it. I suppose, I shall quickly see, at what rate he will talk to me. God keep you and yours, and send you your heart's desire in every thing.

I have been thinking, that it might not be amifs, when the business of the deductions of the army comes into debate, if you shew the accounts, I sent you ; whereby it will appear, how much the officers have used to deduct for clothing, and other extraordinaries : but in this you know best, what is fit to do. When I have the deductions from Mr. Blathwait, which are made in England, I shall be able to see, what proportion they bear with ours here ; especially the horse, many of whom here do make great complaints. And certainly all ought to be alike : more should not be deducted from one regiment, than from another.

Last night happened an ill accident here : one Mr. Ashton killed one Mr. Keating upon the quay. The quarrel was sudden ; and I am not yet well informed of the particulars : but I give you this early notice of it, that you may prevent, if possible, the begging the estate of Ashton ; which, I am told, is a good one. If the king pleaseth

pleaseth to let the law take its course, if it proves forfeited, (as it will be, if the fact be found murder ; which is treason here) his majesty shall have a true account of it ; and, when he knows, what it is, he may do what he pleaseth : I am sure, I have no design, but to serve him as well as I can.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, May 8. 1686.

I G A V E your lordship an account in my last of a little ramble, I was going to take for 4 or 5 days; from whence I returned yesterday. I found here 3 packets come in from England; but, having no commands from your lordship, your present trouble will be the shorter. All is very well here; and, I hope, will so continue. The revenue holds out very well; and, though there be a decrease upon most branches of the produce within this port of Dublin, yet there is a considerable increase in several other ports; and, upon the whole, the produce throughout the kingdom of this last quarter, ending at lady-day last, is something more, than the produce of the same quarter the last year; as my lord treasurer can give your lordship a more particular account. Here has happened this evening an unlucky accident: two gentlemen, one Mr. Ashton, and Mr. Keating, meeting upon the quay, quarrelled, presently drew, and Ashton run the other through; upon which he fell down dead upon the place. I have not yet had an account of any other particulars. Ashton is taken, and in the hands of justice; and will be

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prosecuted according to law. Mr. Ingleby is not arrived, as yet; which I am sorry for, there being but two judges in the exchequer, and the king having more business there, than in any other court; but I hope, he will be here before the next term. I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,
CLARENDON. C. P. S..

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, May 8. 1686.

BY the last mail, which brought in 3 packets from England, I have received yours of the 1st instant; which, being by the king's command, I will answer as fully and distinctly, as I can. And first, as to what I mentioned, in mine of the 17th past, to his majesty concerning a new commiffion of grace for defective titles, I have acquainted my lord chancellor, that the king is pleased to give him and me leave to confer together upon it, and to send over such propofals, as we two, upon due consideration, fhall think fit to offer. We have appointed to meet immediately upon it, and shall, in a very few days, presume to lay our thoughts before his majesty without any delay: for, the sooner a resolution is taken thereupon, the sooner men's minds will be at ease here; which that they should perfectly be, is moft for his majesty's service; and without which every thing will go very heavily. There seems at present to be a great damp upon trade in

in the countries ; into the cause of which I am enquiring, and doubt not to give a good account thereof, and likewise to remove it : for the present I shall say no more of this matter. As to his majesty's pleasure of having the same method observed in paying his army here, as is in England, as soon as I receive that method, (which, you say, you will send me by the next) it shall be followed with all obedience ; and, if there appear any difficulties therein, they shall be represented to you ; and then his majesty will be best able to direct, what to have done in them. As to the deductions, which are now made from the army here, (I mean those, which are certain) I send you an account of what they are in the enclosed paper ; by which you will see, the whole from a common foot soldier comes to in a year but 11s. 1d. The deductions for the treasurer, and to the hospital were by the late king's directions, and the latter by his charter : for those to the clerk of the pells, I refer you to the representation made to me by Mr. Corker, who manages that office for sir Ar. Jones, as deputy to him ; which seems to state it fully. As for 2d. per lib. to the agent, that was directed by the officers. As for what the muster-master general claims, which is a day's pay per annum, which from the common foot soldier is 6d. in the year ; I find by all the enquiry I can make, that that demand has been allowed to him ever since sir — King, grandfather to the present lord Kingston, was commissary general ; which was before the rebellion in 1641. The king allows the commissary general upon the establishment 336l. per annum, and, as you will find it there mentioned, (for the establishment is entered in the council-book at Whitehall) to

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LETTERS OF

continue his taking one whole day's pay in the year from the army. What the deductions are in England, I know not; but have writ to Mr. Blathwait to be informed. I have been assured by some, who have commands in the army in England, that there is always money paid to the muster-master, when he musters a company or regiment: who allows it, or whence it is deducted, I had no occasion to enquire. The king very well knows, the muster-master general's office is a place of great trust, and he is obliged to keep several clerks and deputies. If he be allowed nothing but his salary, it will be very narrow; and the king cannot have a better officer in his station than Mr. Yarner, the present muster-master general; who is a very honest gentleman, and the most exact man in all his affairs, that I have ever known. All the deductions, as they are mentioned in the enclosed paper, come to from a common foot soldier, (from the horse and the officers it is the same in proportion) less than a farthing and half a farthing per diem, and his clothing, (according to the late order I made at the coucil of war) to 1d. $\frac{1}{4}$ more; so that together the whole deductions from the common foot soldier are not 2d. per diem; and his pay being 6d. per diem, he has 4d. per diem to himself: and, if I am rightly informed, 2d. a day is deducted from the common foot soldier in England. I hope, I have clearly stated this whole matter, and made it intelligible; and having done so I have answered all your letter.

I had by the last packet a letter from you of the 30th past from the treasury chamber; which I have communicated

nicated to the commissioners of the revenue, and will send you a distinct answer to it by the next.

I thank you for telling me, that my son is better than he was. I hope, considering the season of the year, he will quickly shake off his cough; and, when he has his health, I shall be glad to hear, he is as diligent as he ought to be in paying his duty to the king and prince: his not doing it is a greater trouble to me, than I can express.

I send you here enclosed a view of the produce of the revenue of the last quarter, ending at lady-day 1686, compared with the same quarter of the last year; whereby you will see, though the produce of the port of Dublin be less in every particular than it was the last year, yet in other ports it is encreased: and in the whole there is a small encrease upon this last quarter. The inland excise, I find, is this last quarter 1086l. 17s. 10d. less than the preceding year; of which I will find out the cause, if it be possible. I think, I have no more to add at present: god almighty keep you and yours.

It may not be amiss here to inform you, that I have issued out warrants for paying the army, what was due for the quarter ending the last of march; so that by the 16th, or 18th of this month, they will be all paid.

Mr. Corker says, more may be said to support the right of the clerk of the pells, if the representation, he has given me, does not satisfy: but I acquainted him with the objections, that were against him, only the last night after my coming to town; and he could not make it fuller upon so short warning. And I thought it best, to give as quick an answer, as was possible, to what you writ by the king's command.

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LETTERS OF

An account of the several usual deductions made out of the pay of the army, with an instance of the same in the pay of a private soldier of foot.

A private soldier's pay per annum	08	08	00
Whereof to the			
Treasurer for poundage 6d. per lib.	00	04	02
Clerk of the pells 10s. per cent. or 1d. $\frac{1}{4}$ per lib.	—	—	{ 00 00 10
Hospital 6d. per lib.	—	—	00 04 02
Agent 2d. per lib.	—	—	00 01 05
Muster-master general one day's pay per annum ; which is one half- penny per mensa	—	—	{ 00 00 06
			—
		00	11 01
Rem. to bal.	07	16	11

Postscript to the preceding letter.

I gave the muster-master general leave to go out of town for 4 or 5 days ; and, he not being yet returned, I could not send you the state of his case under his own hand ; which you shall have by the next. What I have said upon his affair, is by the enquiries I made upon what colonel Macarty said to me ; who complained, when he was here, of that deduction ; and therefore I informed myself as particularly as I could of it, in case I should be further called upon in it : what I have said, I am sure, is true.

To the Lord Treasurer.

Dublin Castle, May 11. 1686.

SIR Robert Hamilton is a wonderful man : he is so full of news, and talks so much in the town, and tells such frightful stories of what universal alterations are to be made here, that the townsmen think of nothing but enquiring after news. The truth is, if what he says be true, there is scarce one man now in employment, but is to be removed, throughout the kingdom ; which, if it were true, might certainly be ordered to be better divulged, than by such a kind of report ; which is not for the king's service, with submission. Among other things he says, the commission of the revenue here is altered, Mr. Bridges put out, and Mr. Keightly put into his room ; that, having some intimation of it, he went to the king, having a pretension to be a commissioner of the revenue himself ; and that the king told him, that he had already put in Mr. Keightly, or else he would have given it to him. And, he says, he was told by a good hand before he left London, that my lord Longford and Culliford were to be put out, and Hacket and Hoare, two merchants of this town, to be in their places. There is a very pleasant story he tells about, and assures people, that he saw and read my lord Tyrconnel's commission ; which gives him very large powers, and the absolute command and disposition of the army, without taking any notice of the lord lieutenant. I confess, I cannot but laugh at this part of his report, which concerns me, whereby he thinks perhaps to make jealousies between my lord T— and me ; which

which will not be in his, or any body's power to do. I never had yet any difference with my lord Tyrconnel; and I cannot imagine, why he and I should not agree in the king's busines, as well as any others. And, I am sure, the king knows, I will be advised by my lord Tyrconnel, or any others in the affairs of the army, or in any other matters, as he commands me: and therefore I give no credit to those reports, knowing well, his majesty will not lessen any man in the authority, he ought to have in the station he has put him, and which he has given by his commission; and I have not yet heard, that his majesty is dissatisfied with any thing I have done here. If I should go about to tell you all the stories sir Robert Hamilton tells here to people of the best quality, (as they assure me) I should fill a volume; and by his own discourses one would think, he had more private conferences with the king, than all the ministers of state. I can say nothing of what he told me; for he has had no discourse with me. He came to see me on friday night, when I came to town: I was as civil to him as I could. He told me, the king commanded him to remember him to me, and that my lord treasurer was well: on funday he dined with me; but we had no private discourse. But there is one particular, I must needs acquaint you with; and it is worth your knowing. On saturday sir Robert Hamilton went to Mr. Price, (having, it seems, busines with him) and told him, though he would not answer the letters he had writ to him out of England, and though he might think himself safe at present by my lord treasurer's means, yet he could assure him, he had great enemies; and that it would be needful for him to have other friends about his

his majesty. That he, sir Robert, had done him all the service he could, when in England ; and so, by his means, had likewise done the earls of Middleton, and Murray ; but people at court would not do good offices for nothing ; and therefore he would advise Mr. Price to let him have 300l. or 400l. to dispose of to those two lords, as he should think fit. Mr. Price answered him, that he corresponded with none about the accusations against him, but with my lord treasurer, in whose province he was ; that he relied upon his own innocence ; and that he served a just and a gracious prince, who would never punish any one unheard. All this Mr. Price told me, and thought fit to impart it to you. I asked Mr. Price, what sir Robert Hamilton meant, at the beginning of this discourse, by the letters he had written to him out of England ? Mr. Price said, that sir Robert had written two letters to him, relating to this matter. I desired to see them, and he brought them to me ; copies whereof I herewith send you : I read the originals myself.. Now you know all I can tell you, and I would have all trinketting known. I am sure, I will conceal none. Certainly this sir Robert is a strange creature. God forgive me, I cannot help thinking, that he did this to trepan Mr. Price ; and, if Mr. Price had given him the money he demanded, it would have been a greater article, than any was against him. And I do believe, the two earls mentioned knew no more of it, than you do before you read this : nay ten to one, neither of them ever spoke to the king about Mr. Price ; for I have known some such passages, when I was heretofore in other busines. I have told you a long story ; and perhaps I may ere long tell you more, as odd-

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strange things are done for money. Whatever the king gives, I would have go, as he intends it; and let him give what he pleaseth. I have nothing more of busines, but what I have written to the treasury chamber. God almighty keep you and all yours.

I have written the first part of this letter in a paper by itself, not knowing, but you may have a mind to read it to the king; and therefore I have writ nothing in that paper, but what, I think, you may shew him, if you think fit. I send you herewith the muster-master general's paper, which I promised in my last. On saturday last in the evening one Mr. Edward Tyrrel, of the county of Meath, brought me the king's letter for creating him a baronet. He is a very odd man: and it were to be wished, his majesty had good accounts of men, before he conferred marks of honour upon them; which he may very easily have, if he pleaseth, and still do what he has a mind to. This gentleman's father was a lawyer, and a roman catholick. What religion he was of in the time of the usurpers, nobody can tell; but he was employed by them to make a survey of the county of Meath, which he did most exactly, therein discovering all the secrets with which he was trusted. His estate was very small: this gentleman hath much improved it, as he says; that is, he bought of new title, from soldiers adventurers, and 49 interest, to the value of about 700l. per annum; of which, it is said, he owes 5000l, and is incumbered with variety of law-suits. There are at present 3 fines imposed upon him by the courts of justice, to the value together of 150l, for 3 several misdemeanours: they are estreated into.

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into the exchequer ; and he hopes by the credit of his friends in England to have a command to remit them. I can only say, that, if that way be found out, to have the fines imposed by law remitted by command from England, without examination, the king's casual revenue will quickly come to nothing. This gentleman is of any, or no religion : he is sometimes a roman catholick, and sometimes a protestant. I think, I have now been long enough. God keep you and all yours.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, May 11. 1686.

IN my letter to your lordship of the 26th of february I enclosed to your lordship a petition to the king from my lord Gormanstowne and others, in behalf of themselves and several other persons, whose fathers had been outlawed in the time of the late rebellion here ; upon which your lordship hath not, as yet, given me any directions. I did in that letter presume to give your lordship my thoughts upon it, and I am still of the same opinion ; and that it is a matter of very great consequence, and ought to be very well considered in point of law ; there being some statutes, which perhaps may difference this case here from cases of the like nature in England ; which I would advise upon with the most skilful of both religions, if I have the king's directions, by your lordship, so to do : but I do not think it fit for me to advise in a point of this great consequence, without first knowing his majesty's pleasure. The reason, why I trouble your lord-

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ship in this affair at this time, is, because several of the persons concerned have lately been with me to know, what answer I have to their petition ; and finding, I have received none, I fear, they believe, I have not sent it. I did promise the roman catholicks (as many of them, as came to me) upon my first coming over, that, whatever requests they made to me, I would make them known to the king in their own words ; and that I would contribute, all that was in my power, towards their satisfaction. I am sure, nobody shall have just caufe to complain of my not dealing truly and sincerely ; and therefore I beg your lordship to let me know his majesty's pleasure in this particular, that I may give some answer to those concerned. I have occasion of giving your lordship no further trouble at present. I am most perfectly,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENCE. C. P. S.

To the Prince of ORANGE.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, May 13. 1686.

WHICH is the greatest fault, to presume to make this address to you now, or never to have done it before, is in the breast of your highness to determine ; and to your determination I will always cheerfully submit. I know, it may be looked on as a great confidence, to cast myself in this manner at your highness's feet, for me, who am so very insignificant in the world. But, when

when you find, that the whole of my ambition is to be preserved in your highness's favourable opinion, and not to be utterly cast out of your memory, I hope, you will easily grant your pardon to one, who desires to be reckoned in the number of your servants : and I humbly beseech your highness to look on me, as I am with all possible devotion and submission,

Sir,

Your Highness's.
most faithful and most obedient humble servant,
CLARENDON.

To the Princess of ORANGE.

Madam,

Dublin Castle, May 13. 1686.

YOUR royal highness's favours to my wife are so signal, that I think myself bound to acknowledge them, if you will not be offended with this my presumption. I see, madam, your goodness outdoes your greatness in condescending to enquire after your poor servants, though in this remote place. I beseech your royal highness to believe, that your gracious bounties to us are laid up in grateful hearts. As the king, your father, hath shined upon my poor family in raising it, and particularly in trusting me in this important station ; so, I hope, I shall never want your royal highness's protection, at what distance soever. I have presumed to present my duty to the prince ; which I humbly beg your royal highness to make acceptable to him by presenting it to his hands : which, I hope, will the more easily induce him to forgive

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give the confidence I have taken in doing it. I must not hold your royal highness too long with impertinencies : I shall therefore conclude with my prayers to god for your long life, and enjoyment of all the blessings of this world ; and that you will be pleased to believe, that I am with all possible duty and submission,

Madam,

Your Royal Highness's
most faithful and most obedient humble servant,

CLARENDON.

To the Princess of DENMARK.

Madam,

Dublin Castle, May 13. 1686.

I HOPE, your royal highness will pardon the presumption of this address, when you consider, that it is only to make my humble acknowledgments for your great bounty to my wife ; which, had it been of no value (as it is of a very great one) the coming from your royal highness would have made inestimable in our eyes. I can assure you, madam, it will be kept, as long as any of the poor family subsists, as a mark of the dependance it hath had on your royal person. As we have been raised by the bounty of the king, your father, so, I hope, we shall never want the assistance of your protection to support us in his good opinion ; and particularly, that you will afford your countenance towards the rendering my endeavours in his majesty's service here acceptable to him. I wish, your royal highness would find out something to employ me in for your service, that you might see, what ready

ready obedience your commands would meet with. That you may live long, be a happy mother of many children, and enjoy all the blessings of this life, is the constant prayer of,

Madam,

Your Royal Highness's
most faithful and most obedient most humble servant,
CLARENDON..

To the Lord Treasurer.

Dublin Castle, May 15. 1686.

THIS is the day appointed by the titular bishops for a general convention of their clergy in this city; and there are great numbers of them come to town, and of other gentlemen and persons of quality. I am told, one of their businesses is to consider of putting on their habits, and of wearing them about the streets; but, no doubt, there are matters of greater moment to be debated. I believe, I shall have an account of all they do; but what service I shall be able to do thereby, god only knows. One would think, these people should not venture to execute any thing, without first communicating their resolutions to the king, if they will not make me acquainted with them: though they pretend wonderful respect to me; and that they will do nothing, without first communicating to me. I had lately an information given me from a good hand to this effect — That every parish priest throughout the kingdom hath had instructions from their respective bishops to give an exact list of all the men in

in every of their parishes, what may be fit to bear arms, and of what ability they are ; and this return is given to the several bishops ; and that the lord Tyrconnel with others, at a meeting, did cause those instructions to be sent to the particular priests to know the strength of the kingdom : that the subscriptions for carrying on the Irish affairs is a general thing throughout the kingdom ; and that sir Patrick Barnwell keeps the books, and receives the money. This general convention (for so it is publickly called, and talked of by all sorts of people in the town) is to continue for a week : so that I shall quickly see, whether they will give me any more account of their proceedings, than they did of their meeting. Methinks, I should have an answer from my lord Sunderland to what I writ to him on the 27th past, whereby I should know, how to guide myself in these matters : or, if this great meeting be by the king's allowance, methinks, his lordship might have given me some directions, though they had been to take no notice of it ; for then I should have been at ease, and known, I had done no fault in not minding what they did. Suppose, the protestant clergy should appoint a general convention from all parts of the kingdom to be held in this city, or anywhere else, without taking notice to me of it, I am sure, I would not suffer them to meet, and would legally punish them for the attempt ; and, I believe, his majesty would well approve of my so doing : and certainly no government will permit any part of their subjects to assemble together without the supreme authority. I would be very glad to know your opinion in these matters, and, whether I should send this information (of which I have here given you the substance)

stance) to my lord president, or any others of the proceedings at this convention ; for I have reason to believe, I shall have several : but, if I do send them, I must conceal the names of my informers. The titular arch-bishop of Dublin has been with me. He seems to be a good man, but is no politician : he is a secular. I am told by a good hand of their own party, that he and the titular primate do not agree. About two days since he asked the primate, by what authority this convention was called ; to which the other answered, that was not a question to be asked ; it should be known, when they were met. The more they differ, the better ; and it is pity, the contests between them may not be encouraged : but that I must not meddle with.

In the dogger, which arrived last night, came Mr. Aubery, (which I am very glad of) and three packets from England ; in which I have yours of the 6th, and 8th instant. By the first I find, you had mine of the 27th past ; so that my lord president might have given me some hints for my conduct in this affair of the meeting : but I am to blame to make so untoward an observation.

The house, which is taken for this meeting to be held in, is hired for a week. Perhaps, before I close my letter, I may tell you what is paid for it: so little is any thing of this matter a secret here. Good god! what can one say to such complaints, as Slingsby makes, colonel Hamilton's agent? It seems, the colonels will support their agents, without examining, whether they are unreasonable, or not; and my lord lieutenant must be almost complained of, as partial, for supporting the king's officers, when they are in the right. And, after all, I

dare say, if colonel Hamilton had been present, he would rather have blamed his agent than Mr. Price. The dispute was not about any thing of the king's service, but about the deductions made by the colonels; which Mr. Price makes, and keeps an account of the colonels' directions and desires, and purely to serve them; for it is troublesome enough, and nothing of his busness, though great ease to the colonels: and I dare say, Price will thank them to ease him of the trouble of keeping that account. But that a judge must be accounted partial by the party, who loseth his cause, is no new practice in the world. When you send over the papers, you mention, in order to a hearing, I will follow the directions you give; and, in the mean time, I am of your opinion, that it is best to say nothing to Mr. Price, except some new occasion arise here. I was so large in my former letters concerning the deductions from the army to the pells, and the muster-master general, that, I think, I need not say any thing more now, but only, that I did not confer with any of the officers of the army upon it; which I will now do, and give you an account in my next. But none of those, who are now here, have ever made any complaints of those deductions; though several of them have heard me speak of what past between colonel Macarty and me there-upon. I am very glad, tory Hamilton is like to fare so well. I writ to the king by him in his behalf: he is a very honest fellow. I think, I have fully answered your's of the 6th: now to that of the 8th.

My former letter was so full concerning the yacht, that I need say no more of that matter, only to renew my prayer, that we may not be burdened here with the arrear:

rear : and, for the future entertainment, leave it to us, that this kingdom may have the honour of maintaining one of his majesty's ships. If things go to my mind, I doubt not, but this country will be further serviceable to his majesty in his maritime affairs ; as I shall speedily endeavour to make appear. I received last night from Mr. Gwyne the method of paying the forces in England ; of which in my next I will give you my thoughts, when I have a little considered it. As soon as I hear, my lord Burlington is landed, I will send him my compliments ; and shall be very glad to see him here, when his occasions will permit. I doubt, he is not pleased with me about Mr. Archer's business ; but really it would have been unjust to have done otherwise, than I did in that matter. I must not conclude without telling you, that my lord chancellor and I are very busy about our proposals concerning a commission, &c. Very quickly after the term (which ends on monday) we shall be ready to send our thoughts to you : the more we think of it, the better we like it. The chancellor hath discoursed of it (not owning, that he has directions in it from England) with several of the best of the Irish lawyers ; who are all fond of it, and wish, the king would issue such a commission, as the only means, they say, to quiet the minds of the generality of his subjects of both religions : though, they say, there are some of both, who will not like it ; but they would not like any settlement. I dare not think, it will bring in so much, as my lord chancellor imagines ; but I would not have the king give away all, that will be raised, above an hundred and fifty thousand pounds. If it goes on, I hope, he will give away none of it ; but let it all go to the relief

lief of those hard cases, which the king shall think worthy to be relieved. But it is yet too early to speak of these matters. God keep you and all yours.

Mr. Bridgeman has written to sir Paul Rycaut, that Mr. Inglesby will not come over; and that I shall quickly have the king's letter for the putting Mr. Rice into that baron's place: so that, I find, they will not reflect upon the invasion is made upon my right; which, whatever may be thought there, is a disparagement to me here. One would think, at least, I might be required to find out, whether Mr. Rice will accept of it. Why might not sir S— Harstowne come into it again? If the king would but trust me in it, as he has done by my patent, I would not sell it: but enough of that.

This day Mr. Ashton stood his trial at the king's bench bar for killing Mr. Keating. Care was taken to have a good jury, and they brought him in guilty: so that he will receive sentence on monday, the last day of the term. Great intercession has been made to me already in his behalf; but in good earnest the fact was so horrid, and so fully proved, and he had so little to say for himself, that I cannot think him a fit object of the king's mercy. I think to gratify his friends so far, as to let them have his body; for otherwise, murder being treason here, by the law he is to be quartered, and his quarters set up: but, being a gentleman, I presume, the king will not be displeased, that the severity of the sentence is so far mitigated. This gentleman's father was sir William Ashton: he was a judge here. His last wife, whom he married not long before his death, is now married to sir Charles Feilding; and has near 300l. per annum of the estate in jointure.

ture. What other estate he has, shall be enquired into; and you shall have an account thereof. I must not omit telling you upon this occasion, how very ill some of the Irish carried themselves; making this trial a national concern, and saying, an English jury would acquit Ashton, because Keating was an Irishman. But you will see, how little reason there was for it, when I do assure you, (and it has been so in all other places, since I came hither) the pannel was made of the best men of the city, that is, men of the best reputation and credit, without regard to religion; and there were as many of one persuasion as the other returned. Honest men, of whatever religion, will do justice, and will not be forsworn. I am in great hopes, the trials, which have been of late, will contribute much to the allaying the animosities among men.

Just now my lord chancellor comes to me, and says, he has a favour to beg of me; which is to let his own brother be of council in the revenue, as Mr. Rice now is. I told him, I was engaged to one Mr. Pine, and that my lord treasurer was so too: to which he said, then he would have done; but Mr. Pine was a bad man, and a very great whig. I only tell you this, as I do other things, that you may know all; but Mr. Pine shall have the place.

To Mr. Blathwayt.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, May 15. 1686.

I was very glad to find by your's of the 24th past, that you were perfectly recovered of your fever; which,

which, I find, is a distemper reigns in England as well as here. I thank you for the list of the alterations, which have been made in the army of England since the 1st of December last; though the method is a little obscure by the several columns not being titled. I will say nothing more of the affair between my lord Mountjoy, and the office of the ordnance; but will endeavour to get copies of those papers from Mr. Bridgeman, without taking notice, you may be sure, of any thing that has passed between you and me upon that matter. I very well understand the meaning of your caution.

I will say no more to you of the affair concerning ships coming from the plantations into this kingdom directly; (for it is not desired to go from hence thither with European goods, without going and lading out from England) because I find by a letter from my brother of the 6th instant, that he intended the next day to lay before the king in council all the papers, I lately sent him from hence concerning that matter; which will come into your hands. I would be glad to know your opinion upon them; which, I fancy, (when you have read them) will not be the same, as when you writ yours of the 24th past; for what is proposed is as much for the good of England, as of this country: nay, the not granting what is proposed will be to the prejudice of the trade of England, and no harm to this country, in our opinions. But no more upon this subject now. I doubt not, but it will be thoroughly considered at the council-board, as a matter of state (for so it is) ought to be; and pardon me, if I say, the commissioners of the customs in England, by the answer they sent to the first paper, which I transmitted

mitted from hence, do not seem to be competent judges of the matter. I am glad, you like the scheme, I sent you, of the army here. I herewith send you another, taken upon the last muster for the three months ending at lady-day last; and I shall continue to send you one after every muster, that every thing may appear particular, and plain before you. Pray, observe again the column of new men: I thought it a very useful remark, and, I am sure, it is so, if rightly considered. Pray, shew them to my lord treasurer.

If you lay these things at any time before the king, I wish, somebody would observe that particular of the new men; the gross of which come in the rooms of those discharged, for there are very few dead, and not many, considering the number, who run away. Those, who are discharged, do generally go for England; which takes away so many people, the greatest want this kingdom has: and those, who are taken in, are natives, a very loose and disorderly people. And, how far the king will find them useful to his service, time will determine. Every body can tell, what has been thought of that sort of men in antient time; but, if the same practice be allowed, the army will consist of no other in a little time. I write this in freedom to you, (I am sure, you will make good use of it) and not without the advice of my friends. I should think, that observation might naturally be made, without any mention of me. The account of the pay of the soldiers and officers of the army here you shall have the next week. I shall be glad to receive an account of the encampment at Hounslow-Heath, when it is done.

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I was indeed a little surprised to hear the duke of Albemarle's being designed for the West-Indies. I doubt, he will recover neither health nor fortune by the employment; and, I believe, without disparagement to his grace, men of another fort would make better governours.

I shall hope for a good account of New-England, and much for the king's advantage, if sir Edm. Andros goes thither: he understands the people, and knows, how to manage them.

Last night came in 3 packets from England; in which I had yours of the 6th instant: for which I return you my thanks, and for the rules for the better governing his majesty's forces in Scotland.

The directions, which were preparing in the treasury for the pay of the army here, I have received last night, and shall within a few days return my opinion thereupon: but, as to the rules for the government of this army, I have heard nothing from my lord president's office, as yet; though I am told of them by several officers of the army here. I am very glad to find, his majesty continues in the resolution of sending for two regiments from hence, which will do his army good; and the sending two out of England to relieve them will give very great satisfaction to this kingdom. I think, I have fully answered all the particulars in both your letters. I have nothing further to add at present, but that I am very really,

Sir,

Your truly affectionate servant,

CLARENCEON. C. P. S.

To the Lord Treasurer.

Dublin Castle, May 18. 1686.

YOU will receive by this post a letter from me to the treasury, with my opinion upon the grant of 480l. per annum to Mr. Netterville, &c. I am sorry, I could not make it more favourable for him; because, if that patent should take effect, (by some private agreements among themselves) my lady Frances Shaen is to have 60l. per annum: she is a very good lady, and, I believe, such a sum is considerable to her; but I could do no better, than I have done, in that matter. I have likewise sent you a letter upon my lord Mount Alexander's petition; which, I doubt, will not please, as I told you in one of my former letters; but both himself (by letters) and his friends have been so earnest for a report, that, to be rid of the importunity, I have written to you, as I have done. I am sure, what I have said is true; but you shall have that whole affair more particular, when I have the report from the barons of the exchequer. I am considering all I can, how to restore the auditor's office, and the best way of doing it. There is no doubt, but a Scire facias brought against Mr. Ware would presently vacate his patent; but then there will be a clamour, in regard the office will not fall to the king, but to the reversioner; who, though he may be a very good man hereafter, yet is at present young, and no way experienced in affairs of that nature; and probably will put in such a deputy, as will serve him cheapest; and then the office will still be in as ill a condition, as it is at present. I have been thinking therefore

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of an expedient; and the best, which occurs to me, is to get Mr. Deering's grant out of the way by compounding with him. Possibly his grant may be voidable; but I do not go about that, because of the regard you have to him. Here is one Mr. Corker, who is not altogether a stranger to you by the use the commissioners of the revenue frequently make of him: he is a very honest man, and able, and perfectly understands all the affairs of the court of exchequer. He would be a very proper person to be auditor general: he is at present in no employment, but deputy to the clerk of the pells. I have discoursed with him to know, if he will be willing to purchase in Mr. Deering's right: upon which he has put his mind in writing; which I herewith send to you. I do think it to be a fair proposal: if you think so too, Mr. Ware's patent shall be presently vacated; and Mr. Corker shall give Mr. Deering good security for performing, what he proposeth. If you do not like it, there is no harm done: it is a thought of my own; and it need go no further. But, if you do like it, I must intreat you to manage it with Mr. Deering; which perhaps will make him the more easily agree to it. Corker will be contented with the patent during pleasure. I am sure, I have no end in this, but the king's service; for, I do assure you, directly or indirectly I will make no advantage of what offices soever fall to my disposal. If this proposition takes effect, I am satisfied, that office will quickly be in good order; which is of great importance, both to the king and the subject. Pray, give me your directions therein.

This morning we have received the letters from England of the 13th instant; which is as soon as they can come.

come. They bring us an account of the princesses being brought to bed, and of your being gone that morning to Windsor. God send them both well, and that the children may live. I must not conclude this without giving you some further account of the great meeting. They did not assemble on saturday; but opened yesterday: and in the evening the titular primate, with his brethren of Tuam and Cashell, made me a visit; and, after the usual compliments, the primate told me, he had sent for several of the bishops to come to town, and there were 10 come besides himself. The chief busines of calling them, he said, was, in the first place to bring them to me, that I might see, what kind of men they were; and in the next place to acquaint them with a letter, he had received from my lord president; which he shewed me. It was very short, dated the 27th of march: the substance of it was, that he was commanded to acquaint him, (the primate) that it was his majesty's pleasure, that he and the rest of the bishops should wear their habit, when they go abroad, all, except the cross on their breast, which bishops wear beyond sea. He said, he thought fit to acquaint me with this, that I might not be surprised, when I saw them so; and that I might know, it was by his majesty's pleasure. I asked him, what habit they intended to wear? He told me, long black cassocks, and long cloaks. I know nothing, I can say or do, but have patience, and to observe them; and I shall know, what is handling amongst them. God keep you and all yours.

Yesterday the commissioners of the revenue being with me, they gave me the enclosed representation for Mr. Rochfort to be their council, when Mr. Rice is removed.

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I told them, they might remember, that about six weeks since, when Mr. Rice was first spoken of to be advanced, I had then told him, that Mr. Pine must succeed him, and that you had recommended him. They seem'd to have forgot it; but said, that Mr. Pine, though a very worthy and able man, was not proper for the employment, because he lived in Munster, and never came to town, but in the terms; and they must have a council, to whom they might resort every day in the year. I have sent to speak with Mr. Pine; and, if he intends to live in town, I am sure, he shall have the employment; of which you shall have an account.

Mr. Pine, since the writing of this, has been with me; and says, he lives altogether in town, except a month or six weeks in the long vacation; and that Mr. Rice was more in the country, when he had the employment, than he without it.

Sir Thomas Newcomen came over with the last packet: he talks of nothing but the obligations he has to my lord treasurer; and that he constantly dined with him three or four times a week. The king and he are all one.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, May 18. 1686.

I s h o u l d have been very much troubled, if these last letters from England, which brought the news of your lordship's indisposition, had not likewise brought me an account of your perfect recovery; which I do heartily congratulate, being as much concerned for your lordship's health,

health, as any friend you have. I told your lordship in mine of the 8th of a very unhappy accident, that had fallen out here that night by Mr. Ashton's killing Mr. Keating. Mr. Ashton was brought to his trial at the king's bench bar on saturday last. Great care was taken to have a good jury : and very worthy men of both religions were indifferently returned upon the pannel ; which, I am sure, has been observed every where, since my being here ; and, I am assured, was so before. But Mr. Ashton excepted against as many, as the law allowed him ; which were all roman catholicks. But the rest, who were very honest men, regarded nothing but the evidence, and their oath ; and, being satisfied with the proofs they had heard, they brought in Mr. Ashton guilty of murder : and yesterday, being the last day of the term, he made some very frivolous motions in arrest of judgment ; but they were overruled by the court, and so the usual sentence was pronounced, as in cases of treason, murder being so by the law of Ireland ; and he is ordered to be executed on saturday come sennight. Several applications have been made to me in his behalf ; but in good earnest, my lord, the evidence was so full against him, and he had so little to say for himself, and the fact was so horridly foul, that I cannot think him a proper object of his majesty's mercy ; and it is highly necessary to make examples of such, as commit such horrid outrages, not to be suffered in a good government. I do not therefore think fit, in this case, to interpose ; but to let justice proceed, as the law has hitherto had its course. Only thus far, I do intend to let his friends have his body without being quartered. I hope, his majesty will not be displeased with that mitigation.

tion of the severity of the sentence, nor with what else I have thought fit to do in this matter. Mr. justice Lindon, and Mr. justice Nugent, before whom this unfortunate gentleman had his trial, (for my lord chief justice has been confined for some days to his bed with the gout) have been with me, and desired me to intercede with his majesty, that he would be pleased to bestow his estate (which is now forfeited) upon his wife and children ; who, they say, are perfect objects of his majesty's compassion. He has four children ; and his wife looks to lie in of the 5th within this month. What the estate is, I cannot yet inform your lordship ; but these judges tell me, it is not much more than 100l. per annum, besides what my lady Feilding has in jointure ; which, they say, will not be forfeited. I have no more to trouble your lordship with at present, but to pray for your health, and to assure you, that I am with very great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENCEON. C. P. S.

To Lord DARTMOUTH.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, May 18. 1686.

I HAVE received your lordship's favour of the 11th instant ; and, for your brother, I will serve him to the utmost of my power. He is not yet come from Kinsale ; but I expect him tonight, and then he shall make haste into England : where, besides that his duty calls him over upon

upon the account of the encampment, he will be useful to us here, by giving a good account of us. He will tell truth of people; and, upon my word, all is not true, that is told you in England. Many things are misrepresented there by people, who go from hence prejudiced; and you will not ask the opinions of those in employment here, whom you have no reason to mistrust. Which if you would do, whatever we said to you from hence, yet you might do what you thought fit; and you would not be the less knowing, by hearing what could be said on all sides. But of this I say no more, till your brother goes; to whom I will refer you for an account of every thing here. Your brother ought to have a company; and I writ about it to my lord president: but you see, how little I have to do in those preferments. I cannot help being of opinion, that I could put his majesty in mind of some men, who are at least as fit for his service, as some who expect commissions; but of that no more at present. I do assure you, I will send over as early notice, as is possible, when any company becomes vacant; and, if my friend William gets it, I shall be sure of one good man more here. By this last post I received two letters from the king, from my lord president's office, concerning the sending over some of our repairable stores from hence to the tower of London, and other things relating to the office of the ordnance. But I am referred to orders, which I am to receive from your lordship; which are not yet come to me: when they do, they shall be obeyed with all expedition. I do expect with some impatience the account, your lordship has so long promised, of the office of the ordnance; which, I hope, will come quickly. You may

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may be sure, I will follow all your directions ; and I beseech you to believe, that I am,

My dear Lord,

Your Lordship's &c.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, May 22. 1686.

LAST night I received yours of the 15th instant ; which puts me into great pain for my dearest sister ; for whom, next yourself, nobody can be more concerned. I am sure, she has been a more constant comfort to me for twenty years together, than this world has afforded. I hope, the next letters will ease me by telling me, that god has been pleased to restore her to some degree of health. I am fully satisfied with what you say concerning my nameless letter of intelligence : I believe, I shall have more, if there be any thing in it ; and, when I have, you shall be sure to know it. Sir Robert Hamilton (I tell you these tittle tattles for entertainment) talks in several styles to several people : I told you what he said to some of the hopes he had of being a commissioner of the revenue here. He has since been with Mr. Keightly ; to whom he has seemed to talk his heart : and amongst other things he told him, that he found, he should never get any employment here ; that my lord treasurer had told him, he must oppose him in any pretensions he had to be employed in the revenue here, but that he would serve him in any thing in England ; and therefore he intended about two months hence to return for England, and try his fortune

tune there. I pity you with all my heart ; for he will pin himself upon your sleeve. He comes to me sometimes, and desires to speak with me in my closet : but, when he is there, all his discourse is nothing but flattery, telling me, how much the king is pleased with my proceedings here, &c. but not one word of any thing like busines. He was yesterday with Mr. Price ; and told him, he found still by letters out of England, that he had great enemies ; but he believed, he had taken off my lord Tyrconnel by making him sensible, that if he, Mr. Price, were laid aside, that my lord treasurer would get in Mr. K— ; to whom that employment, when void, would naturally fall, he having already the name of vice-treasurer ; and this he told likewise to Mr. K— himself. He further told Mr. P—, that it would be very necessary for him to have a fast friend at court ; that he intended today to write to my lord Middleton, and so asked, what he should say to him upon what he had formerly discoursed ? Mr. Price said, he had nothing to say upon that subject ; that he depended wholly upon his own innocence, and the king's justice ; that he was sure, his majesty would suffer him to be heard, whenever he was accused.

Sir Thomas Newcomen hath filled the town with as many rumours of changes, as sir Robert Hamilton did. Amongst the rest, he faith, all the officers of the regiment of guards are to be displaced, except captain Morice ; which makes poor captain Long almost out of his wits. He is captain of the king's company, which he purchased ; and by the rules of war (if those were obser-
ved) he ought naturally to rise to be major. He is a very honest man : his family were always loyal, and sufferers

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for being so. You know the dependance he had upon, and relation to my father; and therefore, I hope, you will do him what good you can. If what sir Thomas says be true, a great many very good men, who have bought their employments, will be ruined; especially Mr. Blaney, my lord Blaney's brother, who laid out all his younger brother's patrimony to purchase a company in my lord Mountjoy's regiment, and is an honest, ingenuous young man.

Mr. Gwyne writ to the commissioners of the revenue, by your order, to deliver two trunks without being opened, and custom free to Terence Dermot: this week the trunks arrived. Dermot being sick, or out of the way, one Clarke, a merchant, came to demand them. The commissioners told him, the trunks were directed to Dermot; and they would not deliver them to him, (Clarke) except he would let them be opened, that they might see, whether there were any merchandise in them: upon which Clarke said, they were for the roman catholick primate; and they might open them, if they durst. Whereupon the commissioners sent to the roman catholick primate to let him know, there were two such trunks; if he pleased to own them, they should be sent to him: to which he returned answer, that it was best to send them, where they were directed. Then the commissioners came to me to know, what they should do. I asked them, where the scruple was. They told me, the trunks were not sealed, and weighed near 400 weight; that Clarke was a very great smugler, and always made false entries, of which he had been detected; and they were afraid, he borrowed a privileged name, as he had heretofore done,

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to cover his merchandise. I directed them to send the trunks with an officer from me to the roman catholick primate's lodging ; and, if he owned them, to leave them there ; if not, to give me notice of it. No sooner were the commissioners gone from me, but the roman catholick primate came in to complain, that he had not his trunks : I told him the reason, and that there was no intention, either of keeping them from him, or opening them ; and that, I was confident, by the time he got home, he would find his trunks there ; with which he seemed satisfied. All was done, as I directed : he had his trunks ; and I have had thanks. This was all done in less than two hours time ; and I think, the commissioners did their duties. I tell you all this story at length, that, in case there should be any complaint made, (for some of these people are very unreasonable) you may know the whole truth, whereby to justify us.

The great meeting is now at an end. There were eleven bishops in town ; who have all of them been with me. They came modestly, in the evenings, two or three at one time, and as many at another : they came in ordinary cloths, such as they have always used to wear. They assured me, they had no meeting of their other clergy ; that all the bishops of their religion in the kingdom (and there is but one more in the world ; who is in France) were called up to town to pay their duties to me, that I might know them, and where they lived, in case I had any thing to command them from the king. I am told by one, as a great secret, that they have a letter from the king declaring, what allowance he intends to give every arch-bishop, and every bishop ; that it was two days

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debated, whether they should acquaint me with this letter ; but it was not yet resolved. This is all at present. God keep you and yours, and restore my sister to her health ; which is my perpetual prayer.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, May 25. 1686.

I FORGOT to tell you in my last of my lady marquis of Antrim's being gone for England : I presume, before this comes to you, she will be got to London. I saw her several times, while she was in this town ; but she said nothing to me of any busines. But I think it not amiss to tell you, that there has been a long suit depending between the crown and her lord concerning a quit-rent, which is almost ready for judgment ; the state whereof shall speedily be laid before you. I am assured, the ar-rears, now due from that estate, come to 20000l ; which, if the king grants the petition my lady intends to deliver him, (for I am told, that is her principal errand over) his majesty will not only lose that sum, but 1200l. per annum for ever. I would therefore move, that, if she does petition, it might be referred to me ; and that his majesty will not give away his right, till the cause be determined. If it goes with him, as, I think, it cannot mis, his majesty may then shew his bounty in what proportion he shall think fit. I thought fit at present to say thus much, that there may be no surprise in the matter ; and I do only desire, the king would not give, till he knows what he has ; and then he is the best judge what to do. My lord

lord Roscommon went into England at the same time with my lady marquis of Antrim : but he gave me too short warning, that I could not write by him ; which is the reason of his carrying you so stale a letter, as that from Kildare. William Legg, who is returned from his government, goes for England on saturday : by him I shall write at large, and send you our project and our thoughts concerning a commission for defective titles ; for my lord chancellor promiseth to be ready by that time. We have had nothing from England since the 15th : you may imagine, I am in pain for the next letters to know, how my sister does. God almighty bless and preserve you both, and all yours.

To the Bishop of Downe and Connor.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, May 25. 1686.

I HAVE received your lordship's of the 12th of the last month by sir Robert Hamilton ; and I had another before, quickly after my arrival in this kingdom. I am very glad to find by your lordship's last, that you are in so hopeful a way of recovery from your great and long-continued distempers. Your lordship will give me leave to wonder, that you should in the very same letter, wherein you wish to be permitted to enjoy the air of England for some little time for the confirming and establishing your strength, before you adventure on a journey, or the change of air ; that you should, I say, in the same letter desire me to renew your licence of absence for a year ; which I take to be more than some little time. My lord,

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it may not perhaps become me to go about to instruct a person of your lordship's rank and knowledge in your duty to the church ; it being more proper, I confess, for me to learn mine from your lordship : but, considering the station the king has thought fit to put me in here, your lordship will pardon me, if I put you in mind, that it is now six years, since you have been from your diocese ; and that the king by his instructions commands me to take care, that the clergy keep strict residence. Though your lordship has several worthy persons among the clergy of your two dioceses, who do their duties very well ; yet, by the accounts they give me of the affairs of the church in those parts, I find an unspeakable want of the bishop's presence there ; many of your clergy being absent from their cures, and leaving them to mean and ignorant curates, such as will serve cheapest ; which gives a grievous advantage to the adversaries of our religion : and I should think myself guilty of unpardonable failings, if I did not endeavour, all that lies in me, to redress these irregularities ; which would not be very difficult, if your lordship were upon the place.

Sometime since your agent applied to me to renew your licence of absence for six months ; but I told your chancellor, Mr. Lovell, that your former licence would expire the 14th of this month ; that six months longer would expire the 14th of November next ; which, being just at the entrance upon winter, I thought, would be an ill time for your lordship to begin your journey, and therefore I granted your licence for three months. I would earnestly request your lordship not to lose the benefit of this fine season ; when the weather, as well as the ways, are

are good: and, if you will set out in july, by as easy journeys as you can desire to take, you may be here before the 14th of august; which will be the best time for you to come hither. I am sure, I need not dictate to your lordship the blessing as well as the comfort, which always attends a man in doing his duty.

As for what your lordship mentions, and seems desirous I should do, to appoint you a coadjutor, I doubt not the legality of it; but it is a matter of great consequence, and requires to be better considered of, than I have yet had time to do. But, I hope, your lordship will speedily tell me, that you are on your way hitherwards; and then that expedient need not be made use of. I doubt not, but your lordship will have an account of the death of Mr. Robert Maxwell from other hands: he enjoyed, as I am informed, to the value of 900l. per annum in church preferments, most of them in your dioceses: he never resided upon any. I hope, your lordship will consider very well, how you dispose of them; and that you are almost a stranger yourself to those, who deserve well in those parts. I shall take it for a very great favour, if you will bestow the chancellorship of Conner upon Mr. Charles Lesly, a man of good parts, admirable learning, an excellent preacher, and of an incomparable life: I am sure, he will do his duty in whatever he undertakes. I beg your lordship's pardon for this tedious letter, and that you will believe, that I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's.
very affectionate humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Duke of ORMOND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, May 25. 1686.

I AM now to return your grace my humble thanks for your favour of the 4th instant; and cannot but be very sorry, you are no more consulted with in the affairs of this kingdom, where your interest, as well as experience, is so great. We know not yet certainly, when we are to expect my lord Tyrconnel; who, I suppose, is to bring the long-expected commissions, which will take every body out of their pain. It is a very uneasy condition for men (especially good men) to live in daily apprehension of losing all they have, and what many of them have dearly bought.

Mr. Legg returns for England the latter end of this week: by him I shall take the liberty to write to your grace upon some things of consequence. In the mean time I beg your directions concerning your town of Kilkenny; where, your grace knows, there have been many contentions: and I am sorry to find, they are not yet allayed, between the two jurisdictions of the city and bishop's court, concerning the election of their magistrates. The time for choosing the mayor is quickly after mid-summer. One alderman Thomas Butler has made application to me, that he may stand: he was mayor about three years since. Several of the aldermen have petitioned on the behalf of one of their own body, one William Kimberly; and an old humble servant of your grace's, sir Thomas Longueville, who was mayor about two years since, has a great desire to serve again. Your old servant captain

Captain Baxter says, Kimberly is a very honest man, and the oldest alderman, who has never yet been mayor; and that it will not be well, for an honest man to be always put by, as he has been twice or thrice, when his juniors have been chosen. I will give no answer to any of the applications, that have been made to me, till I hear from your grace: therefore, I beseech you, let me have your commands herein. I will give your grace no further trouble at present, but beg, that you will be pleased to own me, as I am with perfect submission,

My Lord,

Your Grace's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Arch-bishop of CANTERBURY.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, May 25. 1686.

I AM almost out of countenance, that I should not in all this time have given your grace some account of the ecclesiastical state of this kingdom; but in truth, my lord, I find it a very difficult business to be well informed therein. I am sorry to say it; but it is very true, when I tell you, that I find the affairs of the church in much worse order, and more neglected, than any other concerns. Your grace will scarce believe me; but it is a great truth, that I cannot yet arrive at the knowledge of what spiritual preferments are in the king's gift; which methinks is a strange ignorance; for really nobody can inform me, though several have undertaken it: but yet I

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shall quickly compass a thorough information. My lord, I would not make any ill reflections upon greater and wiser men, who have filled this place before me; but certainly it is impossible to help thinking, there have been great omissions somewhere, when I see the deplorable condition of the church affairs here throughout. The ruinous state of the fabrick of most churches is very melancholly: very few of the clergy reside on their cures, but employ pitiful curates; which necessitates the people to look after a romish priest, or nonconformist preacher: and there are plenty of both. I find, it is an ordinary thing here for a minister to have five, or six, or more cures of souls, and to get them supplied by those, who will do it cheapest: and by this means some hold five, six, nay nine hundred pounds per annum in ecclesiastical preferments, get them all served for 150l. per annum, and not preach once a year themselves. When I discourse with my lords the bishops upon these things, I confess, I have not satisfactory answers; but yet, by your grace's advice and assistance for my support, I do not despair of doing some good: for many things may be redressed without any other difficulty, than men's doing their duties. I must own, that I am informed, the diocese of Armagh is in good order; the churches in tolerable repair, and well supplied. Several of the clergy, who have been in England, sent to renew their licences of absence: but I have refused most of them, which has brought some of them home; and the rest must follow, for by the law to be absent, without licence of the government, forfeits their preferments; and none of them shall be licensed by me without very good grounds. Amongst these the arch-bis-
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hop of Tuam, after three years absence, is resolved to come over, and, I hear, is upon his way: but that which has most entangled me is the bishop of Downe and Connor; who has now been absent from his charge six years. Quickly after my being here he writ me a very civil letter, and desired me to renew his licence; which I refused to do longer than for three months after the 14th of this month, when his former expired: after which I received another letter from him, a copy whereof I take the liberty to send to your grace. I doubt, with submission to your grace's better judgment, whether this be a fit time to make coadjutors; but sure I am, it is not fit for me to do it of my own head, nor by his advice, who desires it. I would humbly beg your grace to let the bishop of Downe know, what he ought to do; for really it is a shame to think, how his dioceſes lie. The dean of Downe is a very honest good man, and does his duty; but he can do no more. One Mr. Lovell, the chancellor of Downe, being lately here, who has the repute of a very good man, (he is brother-in-law to Mr. John Coke, the secretary) I asked him for an account of those dioceſes; which he gave me in writing, as they stood in July last: a copy whereof I herewith ſend your grace; who will best judge, whether it be to your ſatisfaction.

I must not conclude this letter without telling your grace, that the churches in this city are in very good order, and for the most part very well served; and indeed they are all infinitely crowded. I could wish, we had more clergy out of England; and, as any preferments fall, I will beg your grace's assistance therein. If the king would be pleased to fill the vacant bishopricks here, it

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would give as great satisfaction, as any thing he could do; but, I doubt, that matter must not be touched. It is now high time to beg your grace's pardon for this tedious trouble I have given you, and to assure you, that I am with all duty,

My Lord,

Your Grace's
most obedient and most humble servant,

CLARENCE. C. P. S.

To the King.

Sir, Dublin Castle, May 30. 1686.

I MUST not let colonel Legg return into England without presenting my most humble duty to your majesty by him: he has been at his government of Kinsale, and is better able to give your majesty an account of that, and all those parts, than I can pretend to do, till I have been there myself; and I am sure, he will assure your majesty, that he finds all people in all places full of duty to your majesty, and your government. I received your majesty's commands not long since, from my lord treasurer, in answer to what I presumed to write to you concerning a new commission of grace: and in obedience thereunto I have advised with my lord chancellor, who has digested his thoughts in writing; which I have sent to my lord treasurer. I have likewise advised with others, who fully understand this kingdom, and the several interests in it; though without owning, that I had your majesty's permission so to do, that I might thereby the better know their

their own natural sense. And I find a general opinion among all sorts of interests, that such a commission to secure them in their possessions would both bring in a considerable sum of money to your majesty, and infinitely quiet the minds of all your subjects here; which are at present full of apprehensions, though all sober people know, they have no reason for them. My lord treasurer will lay every thing before your majesty; and, when you have considered the reasons which are offered with all humility, if you do not think the commission for your service, all that is done signifies nothing; and nothing more of it need ever be mentioned. And I hope, your majesty will afford me your pardon for starting the thought to you. I have received your majesty's pleasure from my lord president concerning the alterations, you have thought fit to make in your army here, and the additions to your council; which shall be obeyed, as soon as I receive the letters. I have written to my lord president upon some difficulties, that may arise concerning my lord Granard's being president of the council; which he will lay before your majesty. God perserve your majesty, and give you long life; which is the continual prayer of,

Sir,

Your &c.

To the Duke of ORMOND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, May 30. 1686.

YESTERDAY 3 packets arrived from England. With them I had from my lord president a list of the new officers,

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officers, which are to be admitted into the army, when they appear, in the places of other unfortunate gentlemen. Who they are, I suppose, is no secret to your grace: for though I knew nothing certainly of them, till these letters; yet those here, who had better intelligence, discoursed very publickly of many of them two months since, and named the very men, into whose rooms they were to come; in which they now appear to have been in the right. I have likewise a list of several persons, who are to be added to the privy council; which I would send you a copy of, if I thought, your grace were not fully informed thereof. I do a little wonder to find Mr. Nangle's name among them: though he be a very honest and able man, yet it is very extraordinary to have a practising lawyer a privy counsellor, and will not be very decent for him to follow his practice; and to quit his profession, I believe, he will not like. I am sure, he had no mind to be a judge; and, I believe, he will be as little pleased with this preferment. This bearer, Mr. Legg, will give your grace so perfect an account of every thing here, that I need trouble you no more at present, but to beseech you to believe, that I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Grace's
most obedient and most humble servant,

CLARENDO^N. C. P. S.

To Lord Dartmouth.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, May 30. 1686.

I TOLD your lordship in my last, that I had received two letters from the king concerning the stores of this kingdom ; copies whereof I herewith send your lordship, desiring, you will be pleased to consider of them. I am referred by them to the orders, I shall receive from your lordship ; which, when I do receive, shall be carefully observed. One of the letters declares his majesty's intentions of settling magazines at Chester and Carlisle, in order to the supplying this kingdom with stores : the other mentions an order of council, made the 24th of march last, for the returning from hence several repairable arms into the office of the ordnance in England ; of which order of council I have never had any notice ; so that I could not give any observance to it. It likewise requires me to cause several repairable arms (in the letter mentioned) to be sent to the office of the ordnance in the tower of London. If that account of arms (in the king's letter mentioned) were taken out of the book of remains, left in the office of the ordnance here by Mr. Thomas Phillips and Francis Povey the last year (which I suppose to be a copy of what they carried into England) there must be a mistake in it ; for the account of that book is less, than the number mentioned in his majesty's letter by 299. The greatest part of these arms lie at Lymerick, Athlone, and Carrickfergus ; and the rest remote from Dublin : the charge of bringing them by land carriage either to Dublin, or any other port, together with their freight to the tower,

tower, will amount to a considerable sum. And it may prove of dangerous consequence to disfurnish the stores totally, by sending these arms away, before a new supply arrives. Your lordship will likewise consider, that, though considerable stores of arms and ammunition are ordered to the magazines at Carlisle and Chester, for the supply of Ireland, as occasion shall require, when such occasions happen, (which cannot easily be foreseen) those arms will be out of reach ; and, before they can be got hither, the occasion is over, there being very often no communication between those places and Ireland for 6 weeks or 2 months together. I would therefore humbly propose to his majesty, if your lordship thinks fit, that, before these arms, which we have here, be sent into England, a competent supply be sent to Dublin from thence to be distributed to the other parts of the kingdom : and after that, other occasions, which can be foreseen, may be answered from Chester and Carlisle, if his majesty shall so think fitting. I do earnestly desire your lordship to send hither a sufficient quantity of powder with all speed : I am ashamed to tell you, how little there is in the kingdom ; but your brother knows well. Upon this occasion it may not be amiss to observe to your lordship, that the last powder you sent hither cost 3l. per barrel, besides the freight ; and it was not so good, as it ought to have been. I am offered to have the best powder delivered here, clear of freight, for less than 50s. the barrel ; and several of my predecessors have given liberty for what quantities of powder they have thought fit to be imported : but, I assure your lordship, I will do no such thing ; but desire to have all ammunition, &c. from the office of the ordnance in England,

England, if they come as cheap to the king ; nor will I make any benefit to myself, but what the king allows me ; it being my firm resolution to serve him honestly, and to study his advantage and profit in every thing. I am sure, you go upon the same principle ; which makes me write the more freely. I could write much more to your lordship of all affairs here, but, I think, my letter is too long already ; and my friend, your brother, is so fully instructed in every thing relating to this country and people, that I refer myself intirely to him : pray, give him opportunity to tell you all ; and then you will be able to judge, who is most in the right in the informations they give of things and persons here. This country may, and will be with the people in it, as useful to the king, as he pleaseth ; and the trade will flourish and encrease ; and his majesty be as rich, as he has a mind to, if men are but secure of what they have, and meet with the encouragement due to their industry. Pray, think of us, and support us, (me in my own particular at least) according as you find us do our duties ; and have a care, you do not make us useful for other people.

Your lordship sees, how freely I write to you : as you like this, you shall have more. When the camp is over, I hope, you will send my friend William back again to me : it will do him good to live a little amongst us, and be very useful for other reasons ; and I am sure, he shall find all the service and friendship from me, he can desire ; for I am from my heart his, and,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most affectionate and most humble servant,

K k CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord Treasurer.

Dublin Castle, May 30. 1686.

I now send you all my materials in order to the obtaining a commission of grace for the remedying of defective titles. The truth is, one cannot discourse with any man of fortune, of either old or new interest, upon the affairs of this country, but they run into complaints of the unsettledness of things, and the apprehensions they are under of new changes and alterations, which are like to be; which, they say, have already had an influence upon their home manufacture, and must in a little time influence most branches of his majesty's revenue. The natural question upon these discourses (for I have never owned to any, but my lord chancellor, that I had the king's permission to think of this expedient) is, what would you have to cure your fears and apprehensions? The ready answer is presently, without pausing — O that the commission of grace were on foot again: that would settle us, and make our minds easy; would encrease the king's revenue, and raise a considerable sum of money; with which his majesty might gratify such hard cases among the old proprietors, as he shall think fit. This being the truth and the sense of most men, as we fell into conversation with them, my lord chancellor has given his thoughts, and his reasons in writing; which I herewith transmit to you. And the other day my lord chief justice Keating being with me, and discoursing from his observations in his late circuit of the great decay of the inland manufactures, and the damp that seemed to be upon the minds

minds of the trading people and husbandmen, I said to him, for god's sake, my lord, let us apply ourselves to keep up the spirits of men, and see what can settle their minds. His answer was, if the king would renew the late commission of grace, which fell by his brother's death, it would settle the kingdom. This gentleman is of the country, and suspected by some to have too much kindness to the natives: but, I am sure, he is a man of great abilities; nobody ever yet doubted his loyalty; has as general a good reputation for worth and uprightness, as any man in the kingdom; in a word, I do not think him capable of doing an ill thing, nor of giving an opinion contrary to his true judgment. I have found him very useful in the king's service, and do take him to be every way most impartial. I therefore desired him to give me his thoughts in writing upon the discourse we had together; which within few days after he brought me, and I send you his paper herewith. I told him, when I had read it, that his reasons were so satisfactory to me, that I had a great mind to send his paper into England. He answered, he was very willing, I should send it my lord treasurer, and that he should read it to the king; for he would never give me any thing, which he would not own and justify. What he says of matter of fact, of the decay of the inland trade (which is that, which employs the country people) is true. I can myself give one instance of a man in the county of Cork, who about 18 months since had 40 looms at work, and about 6 months since he put them all off; has given his landlord warning, (for he was a great renter) that he will leave his lands; has disposed of his stock, and will go into England: he is worth about

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6000l, and has the repute of a very honest man ; and never went to any church, but the common prayer. Whether he will lay out his money, when he comes into England, is another question ; but I have used the best endeavours, I can, to keep him here. There is another in the province of Munster likewise, who keeps 500 families at work. This man, sending to a tenant for 30l, which he owed him, was presently accused by the said tenant of having spoken treasonable words : of which an information upon oath was sent to the council board ; whither I summoned both parties to appear. When they came, the accuser could bring no evidence, but himself ; but said, that he would bring others, if he might have a protection ; for otherwise his landlord would clap him up in prison. I did not think fit (being pretty well acquainted with the trade of evidencing) to grant him a protection, not knowing, how much he might be indebted to other people ; but I took care, that he should not be prosecuted by his landlord ; who was very willing to submit to whatever I should direct. I caused the accuser to be bound over to prosecute, and the landlord to give bail to appear at the next assizes. He is very well thought of by his neighbours of both religions ; and so he is gone home : but, I am informed, he has called in his debts, is putting off his stock, and will be gone as soon, as his trial is over. Had not we done what we did at the council board, then we should have been represented as not regarding informations of treason ; and directions would have been procured concerning the prosecution upon the information of one side ; which has been done sometimes. I only tell you these stories, (you will shortly have more of the same kind,

kind, and more authentick) as proofs of what my lord chief justice Keating has said. If the king thinks fit to grant such a commission, as is mentioned, it is thought, the former commission of grace may be sufficient mutatis mutandis; and, when the king directs it, we will send him over such alterations, as occur to us to be fitting; but they will be very few: and in the mean time I send you herewith a copy of the former commission of grace, lest you should not have it by you; and likewise a copy of the instructions to the commissioners; but the greater latitude is left to the commissioners, the more money they will be able to raise. As to the commissioners, if I may offer, who they should be, I would humbly propose, that they might be (besides the great officers, who are in of course, and will never attend) only all the 9 judges, and the vice-treasurer, and chancellor of the exchequer, who do always sit as judges in the exchequer. The judges know the busines best; and they will take care, that a competent number of them will always attend. The other day my lord chief justice Keating being with me, and talking of these things, I asked him, what the commissioners had the last time: he said, nothing; though there was hopes given them, that they should be paid for their pains. But, he said, if the king should think fit to set out such another commission, he hoped, the commissioners should have no salaries; and, if the judges were employed, they had good salaries from the king, and were bound to do him all the service they could: and, if salaries were allowed, he doubted, there would be many pretenders for the salary sake only; and some might get in, who did not understand the busines. You see the temper

temper of the good man ; and, I confess, I am mightily of his mind. I think, I have emptied my mind concerning this matter for the prefent : I shall only add, that I do firmly believe, this commission will settle the kingdom, and the king's affairs ; and, if it does, I shall be better pleased, than, if all the money raised by it were to be my own ; which, I know, by some would be accounted folly. But I cannot help it : I am contented to be the fool, if I can but be the promoter of any good ; especially to a country, which so much deserves his majesty's countenance and protection ; and which wants nothing, but his encouragement, to make the people rich, and the happiest in the world. You will not expect after all this, that I should say much to you by this honest messenger, William Legg. I have not, you may believe, said any thing to him of this matter ; but of every thing else, of the country and people, he will entertain you very well. Pray, allow him time to talk to you as often, and as much as he will : he will give you an account of us all. God almighty blefs and keep you and all yours.

I must not omit telling you, that my lord chancellor has discoursed this great affair with the roman catholick judges, and all the lawyers of note of that religion ; and I have discoursed Mr. justice Daly in it. And they are all clear of opinion, that this commission of grace is the best way to settle the kingdom.

To the Lord President.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, May 30. 1686.

YESTERDAY came in 3 packets from England; among which I had your lordship's of the 22d instant, and was very glad to find by it, that you were recovered of your late indisposition. In this letter from your lordship I have received the lists of the names of the new officers of the army, and of the persons added to the privy council, and likewise his majesty's letters for putting sir R. Reynell's name out of the council book; which shall be immediately done; and for constituting the earl of Granard president of the council here, which I will acquaint him with as soon, as he comes to town. He went into the country, about 3 weeks since, upon the account of his health, to take a little air; and I expect him back tomorrow. We shall be in a little difficulty, where to place him: for there never was a president of the council here before; and the statute takes no notice of, nor appoints a place for such an officer here, as it does in England. In the list of the persons added to the privy council I find Mr. Richard Nangle: he is a very learned, and an honest man; but I beg leave to observe to your lordship, that he is a practising lawyer, and, I doubt, will think it hard to quit his profession for that, which brings no advantage, though it be a great honour: for it will not look well, that a man, who has the honour to be of the king's privy council, should be crowding at the bar of the courts of justice bareheaded, and his bag in his hand. I have not heard, it was ever yet done, but to

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sir Francis Bacon, when he was attorney general; and to satisfy his ambition, by the credit he had with the duke of Buckingham, or rather by importunity, he was made a privy counsellor; but never appeared afterwards in Westminster-hall, unless the king's business required him. But I will speak with Mr. Nangle tomorrow, and let him know the king's gracious intentions towards him; and will in my next give your lordship an account of what he says himself. Now I know his majesty's pleasure with reference to my lord Gormonton and my lord Ikerine's reversing their fathers' outlawries, I will advise upon it, and give your lordship a further account in my next. I am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To Mr. Blathwait.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, May 30. 1686.

I HAVE received yours of the 13th instant, and therewith the other regulations and orders for the government of the forces of Scotland. They ought to be well considered, before they are established in this kingdom; for there may be particular circumstances in some countries, which may not be the same in others: as, in the articles of war, which were set out the last year in England, and transmitted hither, there are many things very inconvenient to be practised here.

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HENRY EARL OF CLARENDON. 265

I shall be very glad to receive the account of the deductions from the army in England ; for indeed they are very necessary to me. Many of our officers of the army here are much dissatisfied with the deductions which are made ; though they are the same, which have been made before the rebellion in 1641 : and at the same time they think, they may make what deductions they please upon the account of clothes, accoutrements, agency, &c. &c. In truth (if I may say so) some of them are so great, that the poor soldier, to whom the king intends well, (for he allows very good pay) has not enough to live upon.

I would be very glad, the king were come to a resolution concerning the plantation trade with reference to this kingdom. Since my last here are come in 3 ships from the West-Indies ; one to Coleraine, and two to Cork : they have certificates of having paid the duty in the plantations, and think, they are not within the law, not having entered into bond there to go for England. One of the ships cannot go to sea, there being two leaks in her ; and neither master, nor mariner will adventure in her. The owners do resolve to quit that trade absolutely, and to turn their industry some other way. They are contented to go hence into England, and to enter outwards from thence ; but to return thither again from the plantations, and to unload in England does not, they say, quit cost, and they cannot live by it : any common tradesmen, they say, may fetch tobacco from England. Upon my word there want no discouragements to the trading men of this kingdom. I believe, the weather is much

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the same here, as in England : this month hath been very wet and cold. I am,

Sir,

Your very affectionate humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, June 1. 1686.

IN my last I acknowledged your's of the 20th past ; which will require no very large answer. As to what you mention concerning the quarter's account of the revenue, and the decrease in the port of Dublin, I write to you at large upon it in my letter to the treasury ; as I do likewise to what you say about the late farmers.

This morning I received your's of the 25th of the last month, and do return you a thousand thanks for what you tell me of my lord T—'s commission. Though I did not believe, (notwithstanding the positive reports) as I writ to you, that so apparent an absurdity would be committed ; yet, at this distance, it is however a great ease to have fresh assurances of the truth of the matter of fact. And I will be contented, any body shall be judge, whether he shall have cause to complain of my conduct towards him ; and yet you shall find, I will preserve my dignity, as I ought to do. Colonel Fairfax is not yet arrived ; though I hear, by some who are come over in this last packet, that he (with several others) is upon the road. I will follow your advice in giving my lord president an account of the meetings of the roman catholick clergy ;

clergy; and though I do it not at this time, I will speedily take an opportunity of doing it, and in such a manner, as shall not give offence. I will say nothing more to you of Price, or Slingsby, till you send me over the accusations; which shall be impartially heard, and faithfully reported to you; as shall the matter of the deductions. I give you many thanks for what you resolve concerning the yacht. It will be a very easy way to pay what is due to the men here out of the money which is ordered for England: and though I would have been very proud, that this yacht should be supported out of the revenue of Ireland, and it might have been plentifully done, if things continue as they were; but if this fright continues upon men, so as to carry the most industrious away, (and many substantial people have actually left the kingdom within these 6 weeks) then, I say, the king's revenue must sink; and I doubt, it will require more pains to make it rise again, than has been used to make it fall. And then, I am sure, the king will find himself at a loss for the defraying a great part of the charge here. I will write to my lord president hereafter, in the method you propose, concerning the privileges granted me in my patent. Yesterday Mr. Rice brought me his letters to be a baron of the exchequer, and to dispense with his taking the oath of supremacy; I immediately dispatched him; and this morning (before I received your letter) I signed his patent: so that that matter is over; and on Friday (the first day of the term) he will be upon the bench. The other letter, he gave me, for making of him a privy counsellor he desired me to take no notice of, till other new

counsellors were admitted ; which, no doubt, I might gratify him in.

The truth is between you and me, it is a very ridiculous thing to make a puise judge of every bench of the privy council ; and was never done, but in sir R— Reynell's case, because of his great ability, and as a reparation to him for being put by from being lord chief justice. These poor men are almost out of countenance to accept of it, (judge Nugent excepted, who is indeed a very troublesome, impertinent creature) and think, it will bring envy upon them, when it was not needful ; they being every way as well qualified to do the king all possible service without the burden of that honour. I may add, that the making so many privy counsellors is an additional charge upon the revenue : for every counsellor has the impost of a certain quantity of wine every year ; which though it be no great matter, yet, according to the old saying, every little makes a mickle. I have this morning sent an order to the commissioners of the revenue for the retaining Mr. Pine, as their standing council, in the room of Mr. Rice, and with the same advantages he had : and that matter is likewise settled.

You see by my letter to the lord president, what I have written to him concerning several particulars : and truly, I think, I could not say less on the behalf of those unfortunate gentlemen, whom I have mentioned. The truth is, many of their cases are very deplorable ; and, besides that the king does not love to do hard things, I am very confident, if he knew many of these persons, he would not lose them out of his service. If lieutenant colonel Ant. Hamilton may be believed, (and I take him to be

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the best of that sort) he is in great trouble for these changes ; especially for those in his own regiment. He says, the men, who are put out of that regiment, are as good men as are in the world ; and he does not think so of those, who are in their rooms. He says, every one of those officers, whom he particularly recommended both to my lord T— and sir Thomas Newcomen, are put out ; and that those, who are put in, are men who will bring no honour to the service. You will believe, I am not displeased to see them have dissatisfactions amongst themselves.

I thank god with all my heart for the confirmation I have of my sister's amendment. God almighty keep you both long together, and bles all yours.

I have not yet all my materials from the commissioners of the revenue, and therefore cannot perfect my dispatch to the treasury ; but you shall not fail of it by the next.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, June 1. 1686.

I HAVE this morning received your lordship's of the 25th past concerning the 6 Algier men of war, which are said to be in the channel ; and have given the necessary orders to all the ports in this kingdom for their good treatment, according to his majesty's command. I have not yet heard of any of those ships upon this court.

I have acquainted my lord Granard with the king's pleasure concerning him ; who submits with all duty and cheerfulness to whatever his majesty thinks fit to determine.

mine. He is very sensible of the king's grace in giving his regiment to his son ; but, if you will have my opinion, he had much rather have the continuance of his pension without the office of president, than with it. And, I believe, I shall be desired to say something of that matter to your lordship ; for he has earnestly prest me not to publish the king's letter, till he speaks with me again ; which, I thought, I might gratify him in.

I have likewise spoken with Mr. Nangle, and told him, that the king designs to make him of his privy council ; with which he was extremely surprised, and wonders, his friends will move in his behalf without first consulting himself ; he tells me, to leave his practice will be his ruin ; and to appear at the bar after he is a counsellor will be very undecent, even for the king's service. He has therefore desired me not to take any notice of it : he is a very good, as well as an able man : he says, he was never ambitious ; and therefore desires to be let alone, where he is. He says, no chief justice's place in the kingdom would equal his present gains ; which he must consider because of his great charge of children, for whom he is bound in conscience to provide. And he says, he is fully as ready, and as willing to serve the king, as well as he can, in his way, in the station he is, as if he were in any of those places.

I beg leave to acquaint your lordship, that in looking over the list of the new officers of the army I do not find any provision made for captain — Fitz-Gerald ; who was in the list the king gave me of those persons, for whom he did intend in the first place to provide. He is an old cavalier ; served as a captain of a troop of horse in the war
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of England, and is owned by all people to be a very good man. The king commanded him to come over with me, which he did ; and assured him, he should be taken care of. Above all things I would not have him, or any body think, that I do not do my part towards them : I do therefore beseech your lordship to enable me to say something to this honest gentleman, who carries about him the marks of losing his blood in the service of the crown ; and who was in hopes, by the king's promises to him, to have been as soon taken care of, as any of his religion. I doubt, I shall be obliged to be very troublesome to your lordship in laying before you the lamentable cases of several gentlemen, who are now unfortunate by losing their employments ; and consequently all they have for subsistence in the world : but I know not how to avoid it, it being necessary for his majesty to know the truth of some of their cases ; and they are confident, his majesty's compassion and bounty is such, that he will not suffer men to starve, who have given those proofs of their loyalty, as some of these gentlemen have done.

One of the saddest cases to acquaint you with at present is of captain George Twifleton, who had a company in sir Thomas Newcomen's regiment. His story in short is this. His father was killed in the field under my lord Langdale, when this gentleman was a very infant. His small fortune was broken, (as other men's in those times were) which he never could recover from the debts, which the composition, and other inconveniencies incident to loyalty, had brought upon it. At length, after taking all opportunities to put himself into the king's service, he sold the remaines of his fortune, (which was never great)

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and purchased this company about 6 years since ; where, if lieutenant colonel Hamilton may be believed, (who understands the regiment better than the colonel ; for he makes it his business) he has behaved himself very well, is constantly at his quarters, and looks well to his company ; and has it in good order, and is a good sort of man, as is in the world : and the lieutenant colonel says, he is very sorry to lose so good a man out of the king's service.

There is but one gentleman more I will mention to your lordship at this time ; and that is Macquire, who was lieutenant colonel of Russell's regiment. He is an old officer ; was in the rebellion both of England and Ireland on the king's side, and never on any other ; and, if his carriage of late years in the most mutinous times be any merit, there is no man was more vigorous in decrying the popish plot, and in asserting his present majesty's interest even with hazard, than this gentleman. I cannot tell your lordship these stories out of any partiality to the persons ; who are most of them unknown to me, but as I found them in the king's service : and I think it my duty to lay every thing before your lordship. When the king knows the truth of all persons, his majesty is the best judge, what to do towards them. I am with all respect,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,
CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Duke of Ormond.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, June 1. 1686.

I HAVE lately made a proposal to the king for renewing the late commission of grace ; which was on foot the last year of the late king, and expired by his death. It is the opinion of very wise men of several interests, that such a commission would contribute more than any thing (if speedily granted) towards the quieting of men's minds, and allaying the present apprehensions they are under, by confirming them in their estates ; and that it would likewise raise a considerable sum of money, whereby his majesty might be able to relieve such of the Irish, whose cases he should think worthy of his compassion. I have laid the project before my lord treasurer ; who, I am sure, will communicate it to your grace : but it is yet a secret ; therefore I beg you not to speak of it to any other. I thought fit to acquaint your grace with it, as I shall do with every thing, that you may give your assistance in it, as far as you think fit and reasonable. I am sure, something must be done to make men at ease in their minds, and secure in their estates ; or else the king's revenue will certainly fall very considerably, and the people will quit the kingdom. Several families do every week go away ; and multitudes do daily put off their stocks in order to be themselves at liberty. I here send your grace the names of the persons added to the privy council ; who, I believe, are all known to you. I cannot but wonder at the putting in Mr. Nangle : I believe, it is the first time such a preferment was thought of for a practising lawyer.

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LETTERS OF

good man desires to wave it, as a thing not decent for the king's service, besides the inconveniences it will bring upon himself. He wishes, his friends would first consult himself, before they move for preferment for him: all which I have represented to my lord president in Mr. Nangle's own words. I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Grace's
most obedient and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, June 3. 1686.

L AST night colonel Fairfax arrived; who gave me yours of the 24th past, for which I gave you a thousand thanks. I will not answer you with the like freedom, till I meet with as good an opportunity; but do assure you, I will follow all the advice you give me: I am not yet melancholy enough to despond. I will follow the practice I have hitherto used, to represent both things and persons, as I have done; which has been according to the truth, and without any manner of partiality or private affection. If I am not believed, I cannot help it. I am sure, I will be in the right; and, whatever happens, it shall not be in the power of any one to say, Why did you not represent this? And so god's will be done. But, if the king finds, that his subjects here do desert the country (as, I am sure, they do every week) then it will be more than a suggestion; and perhaps I shall

shall then be believed: but what the king pleaseth. When he is truly informed, (as, I am sure, he is not by every body) his and the lord's will be done. Possibly, before this letter goes away, my lord Tyrconnel may be arrived: you will then quickly see, how things are like to fadge. I will say nothing more of Mr. Price's affair, till I receive the charge from you; but only this, that he never (and he has given me the same under his clerk's hand) advanced any money to Slingesby, colonel Hamilton's agent, nor was ever desired by him to imprest any of the pay of the regiment beforehand. The truth of all will appear upon the hearing. If a certificate from my lord chief justice Keating in favour of Mr. Price will do him good, he will give him a very ample one; for he speaks wonderfully well of him, and says, he told lord Tyrconnel when he was here, that he would find him a good man, and that Ellis had abused him. I resolve, he shall be at the hearing; and so shall all the officers of the army. The great talk now of the town is, that Mr. Trant, and a party of men with him are to farm the revenue of this kingdom, and to give the king good security to pay him 300000l. per annum; which, they say, is a clear answer to all the suggestions, that can be made, of the decay of trade. I tell you this only as news; for I cannot help laughing at it. There is one Reiley of the temple, who is now chairman of a committee of intelligence (as it is called) for the affairs of Ireland; and pretends to give an account of all persons and things from hence: possibly it may be worth your enquiry into such a man's correspondence. Here are two stories written hither in several letters, (for this is the most tattling place in the world)

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wherein you are concerned ; and therefore I must tell you them, though they are both foolish. One is, that the countess of Middleton lately petitioned the king for 2000l, which was due to her lord upon the account of Tangier ; that this petition was referred to you ; that she attended you with it ; that you told her, it could not yet be paid, nor could you give her any hopes, when it would : that quickly after the king, being at the treasury chamber, asked for that petition ; when you gave it him, he told you, he would without any hesitation have the money paid. This is told as an instance of your declining in credit.

The other is yet more ridiculous. My lord chancellor is in very little credit ; that my lord chief justice Herbert has exposed him upon the bench by laying open his briberies and corruptions (as they are called) in the west ; with which the king is extremely offended ; insomuch that, it is said, he will not be long in his place : but my lord treasurer does all he can to support him ; as an instance whereof, the letter says, they are perpetually together, and go sometimes to Hide-Park, and sometimes to the play together. Is not this very silly ? But who can help it ? Only indeed I need not write it to you. You may remember, sometime since I sent you a copy of my lord chancellor's letter to me of the 25th of march. I answered it on the 6th of April as civilly as I could, and with the same freedom that he invited me. I had never any answer from him, till by the last packet ; which brought me a letter from him of the 27th of may : I send you a copy of it for a pattern of truth, candor, and sincerity. I have not yet answered it, because I cannot in so short a time,

time gather up such a proportion of dissimulation and sweetneſs, as is neceſſary: when I can, you ſhall have a copy of my letter. Yesterday Mr. Ashton was executed. I have yet had no anſwer from my lord president upon the application of the judges to me, that his maſteſty would remit the forfeiture of his ſmall eſtate to his wife and ſmall children; who are indeed great objects of compassion. I have no more to trouble you with at preſent; but my prayers ſhall never fail, whilſt I live, for you and my ſiſter, and all yours.

Saturday, June 5:

Today about noon notice was brought me, that the yacht was in the bay; upon which I ſent my coach to Dunlary to meet my lord Tyrconnel. He firſt ſet down his lady at his houſe, and then came to the caſtle: he was with me between 4 and 5 of the clock. After the uſual falutations, he delivered me the king's letters; which, he told me, we might diſcource upon at leisuſe. He told me, he had brought all the commiſſions; which ſhould be preſently ſent to me: but he deſired, he might ſee the liſt, which my lord president had ſent me, (for he had none) before they were given out; and yet he deſired, thoſe belonging to the royal regiment might be given out as ſoon as was poſſible. I ſaid, that, if he would, we might meet upon it tomorrow in the afternoon, and agree together, how and when the commiſſions ſhould be given out; in which I ſhould be glad of his aduice, as in every thing else; and that we might meet together every day, till we had given the neceſſary orders in obedience to all the king's commands: which, he ſaid, he ſhould be glad of;

of; for he longed to be out of town, and to despatch the business of the army, that he might go over again into England to attend his health. After this he fell upon the discourse of Mr. Price's affair in the general; but said, he would say no more of it, till I had the papers from you; which, he believed, I could not have yet, because you were first to go for Windsor. It was true, he said, he had no very good opinion of Price; but, if the things complained of were redressed, and he heard they were in a great measure, he should be very well satisfied. I answered, that I had nothing to say of Price, but as I found him in the king's service; that, as soon as I had the papers, I would hear the busines; that I would desire his lordship to be present, and all the officers of the army, because the complaints principally concerned them; and such of the lords of the council, as he should have a mind to: and that then he should stand or fall according to his merit. He made all possible professions of friendship, kindness, and respect to me; which, you will believe, I answered, as I ought to do: and, I am sure, he shall have no cause to complain of any thing from me. This was the substance of what passed between us at the first meeting.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, June 5. 1686.

BY people who came from England, and arrived here on wednesday, we know, that my lord Tyrconnel was to be at Holy-head on thursday; but we cannot expect

pect him here, till the wind changeth, which was all yesterday very contrary. I observe by your lordship's of the 22d past, that his majesty does not think fit, that the letter dispensing with the new judges taking the oath of supremacy should be entered at the signet office; to which I submit, as I shall most readily do always to his good pleasure. But, in regard your lordship says, it is a matter of state, and in the nature of an instruction, and improper to be entered any where, but in the secretary of state's office, I think fit to acquaint your lordship, that those letters are of necessity to be enrolled here for the benefit of the persons concerned, as the others for dispensing with the privy counsellors are to be entered in the council book for the same reason. I only tell your lordship this, that I may not be blamed hereafter for entering them; which, I am confident, I shall not be, when you consider the reason of it. I beg your lordship's leave to put you in mind of Mr. Fleming, for whom I did beg a cornet's place some months since: and your lordship was pleased to tell me, that the place I then mentioned was disposed of; but that the next should be given to him: and the king has said as much to his uncle sir R. Bellings. But I do not find his name in the list of the new officers; which makes me take the liberty to remind your lordship of him.

I must not conclude this without troubling your lordship with some more complaints. That which is at present the most melancholy one is of captain Collier; who had a company of grenadiers. This poor man has been in the king's service, one way or other, ever since his late majesty's restoration. He was with some commanded men in

in the fleet in the late Dutch war ; and, about 10 years since, was sent to Tangier ; where he continued till the demolishing that place, and where he lost considerably, most of what he was worth being in houses there. He has ever since been with his company here : he has a wife, and 5 children ; and he is not worth, I verily believe, 50l. in the world. Give me leave, I beseech you, to tell you, that his father (who is yet alive) was a townsmen of Salisbury in a very good condition ; was ruined totally for his loyalty ; was condemned to be hanged, drawn, and quartered in colonel Penruddock's busines, and has been of late years principally supported by this his son. These are sad stories ; but they are true : and, I know, your lordship's generosity is such, that you will contribute all you can towards their relief by representing them to the king. I am with all respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most obedient and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

This evening my lord Tyrconnel arrived, and has given the king's letters, and all his commands ; and we have appointed to meet tomorrow, that no time may be lost in putting them in execution : of all which your lordship shall have a further account in the next.

To the Lord Treasurer.

Dublin Castle, June 8. 1686.

SUNDAY the 6th. Today my lord Tyrconnel dined with me. After dinner we went together into my closet, and looked over the list of new officers; where he marked those, whom he thought able to pay my lord Sunderland's fees: and for the others, he said, they were poor devils, and the receiver general must be directed to pay them, and deduct them hereafter out of their pay. He then desired, that the commissions to the officers in the royal regiment might be delivered out with all speed, that he might quickly settle what was to be done in town; for he longed to make haste back into England for his health; which is every foot the burden of the song. I told him, they should be given out tomorrow. He then desired, that the other commissions might not be yet given out; that it was necessary, he and I should first discourse more together: to which I said, with all my heart; that he might come to me when he pleased; he should always find me at leisure: he then said, he would come to me tomorrow morning. And these things being thus settled, sir P. Rycaut (who had been present all this time) went out of the room; and I thought, we were parting, when his lordship began a rambling discourse; which I will repeat, as well as I can from the notes I immediately took. My lord, I am sent hither to view this army, and to give the king an account of it: here are great alterations to be made; and the poor people, who are put out, think it my doing; and, god damn me, I have little or nothing

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nothing to do in the matter : for I told the king, that I knew not two of the captains, nor other inferiour officers in the whole army. I know, there are some hard cases, which I am sorry for ; but, by god, I know not how to help them. You must know, my lord, the king, who is a roman catholick, is resolved to employ his subjects of that religion ; as you will find by the letters I have brought you : and therefore some must be put out to make room for such as the king likes. And I can tell you another thing ; the king will not keep one man in his service, who ever served under the usurpers. To all this I told him, that this need not be said to me, who did not take upon me to enquire, how, nor why any men were put out of, or others put into the service ; that the king knew best what to do, and my part was to obey the commands he sent me ; which, I was sure, I had hitherto done, and should continue so to do ; that, when I had any room to recommend, I always put his majesty in mind of such roman catholicks, as I thought deserved his favour ; which, he owned, the king had told him. But, I observed, his lordship thought, there were some hard cases ; and, when I was fully satisfied of any such, I did take the liberty to represent such persons, and their circumstances to the king, without the least demurring upon executing his commands ; being confident, that his majesty (when fully informed) would take them into his consideration. I then mentioned the long services, and merit of lieutenant colonel Magwire ; to which he replied — My lord, you do not know all : besides all you have said, I will tell you, what I know to be true. That gentleman, in the late years of persecution, received and sheltered

sheltered all the poor catholicks, who came to him ; and, by god, to have him now laid aside is a terrible thing : but, my lord, when that is done, I would not have you represent any of their cases ; which will anger the king, and perplex him. I answered, that I thought it my duty to inform the king of every thing ; and, if his majesty disliked any thing I writ, he would let me know it; which, he was sure, would ease him of any thing of that kind for the future. As to what he said of the king's resolution to employ none, who had ever served the usurpers ; I hoped, he would not rashly declare that for a positive rule, because in fact it would prove not to be observed, as his lordship could not but know. He asked, who they were, that were now employed, who had ever served the usurpers ? I answered, that I did not doubt, but the king was very well satisfied in those, whom he employed in his service ; and therefore, as long as I saw them behave themselves well, I was not to start objections against them, which could not but be known before : and so I left his lordship to find out, whom I meant. Then his lordship, rising up to be gone, flew out — By god, my lord, these acts of settlement, and this new interest are damned things. Pray, my lord, said I, let not you nor I enter into those matters : I doubt, neither you nor I are well informed of all the motives, and inducements, which carried on those affairs 26 years since. Yes, says he, we do know all those arts, and damned roguery contrivances, which procured those acts. My lord, said I, I do not know, what you mean ; but those acts, such as they are, the king will not have unravelled into ; and it must be your lordship's busines, and mine, and every body's, to endeavour

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to reconcile people ; and we must all conspire to disperse jealousies between parties, and to unite every body to the common interest, that the king may be well served, and every body go about his business ; that the trade may flourish, and the king's revenue encrease. I know, says he, the acts of settlement must not be touched, and, by god, it would make a confusion, if they should ; but, I am sure, my lord chief justice Keating, and sir Jo. Temple (whom all the world will own to be men without exception) told me, when I was last here, that all the new interested men would willingly give a third, or half of what they had, to secure the rest ; whereby money might be raised for those who wanted it. I know not, said I, what discourse was between your lordship and those gentlemen ; but I will be ready at any time to hear them, or whoever else you will desire upon any points, which may probably bring any advantage to the king. Well, said he, I will say no more at present ; but, by god, my lord, here have been foul damned things done here. And so after an hour and half discoursing at this rate (for he is a loose, and confused talker) we parted. He only desired, that I would command all the officers now in town to repair to their respective posts, that they might be there, when he came amongst them.

Monday the 7th. About 9 in the morning my lord Tyrconnel came to me, and said, he had much to say to me. I told him, he should have as much time, as he pleased. He told me, though the commissions were come down for sir Ch. Feilding, and colonel Fairfax, yet it was the king's pleasure, that sir Ch. Feilding should have his choice, and that he had told sir Ch. Feilding so last night ;

night ; and that he would be by and by with me to give his answer : and accordingly he quickly came, (he had been with me two hours before, and told me all that had passed between them ; and that he had much rather have the government, than the regiment) and after some discourse he told us, that he had much rather have the government. I did not make any observation to him, that I had no intimation of this, nor any thing else from my lord president ; nor of his lordship's having spoken to sir Ch. Feilding, before he had mentioned it to me ; which at another time, or in another man, might have been thought a little strange. What I did say to him upon this matter, you will see in my letter to my lord president ; as you will likewise, what passed between us upon the commissions for Mr. John Butler, and Morris : in which certainly I am in the right ; though his lordship swears bloodily between jest and earnest, that I am too scrupulous. But I tell him, it has always been accounted very penal to make rasures in any instruments, after they were signed by the king.

His lordship then told me, that there was another reform to be made in the army ; for, god damn me, says he, this Scotch batalion, which is newly come into England, has undone us : the king is so pleased with it, that he will have all his forces in the same posture. We have here a great many old men, and of different statures : they must be all turned out ; for the king would have all his men young, and of one size. I desired, that he and I might consider a little of this before the men were put out, and lay the case before the king, and know his pleasure, what should be done with the men ; that those,

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who are old, have a right to be admitted into the hospital by the late king's charter of foundation, and have contributed out of their pay towards the building of it; that he should see the state of the hospital; that I doubted, we could not get out of debt, and buy furniture, and other conveniences to make room, till towards Christmas; that it would be hard to turn the men out, and make no provision for them; it would therefore be best in the first place to know, what the king will have done: possibly, when he knows, there can be no provision for them yet in the hospital, he will either direct the men to be kept for some months in the army still, or appoint some allowance for them, till they can be admitted. His answer was, well, we will talk of it again: something must be done; but, by god, the men must out; and, hang them, they have had the king's pay a great while. He then told me, he had a mind to see the two troops now upon duty in town (which are of his own regiment) drawn together this afternoon; which, I told him, I would give orders in immediately; and likewise for the royal regiment to draw out tomorrow morning, as he desired. And thus we talked together in this rambling way, ever and anon making wonderful compliments to me, how he saw, that I minded every thing, &c. till I was called to dinner; and then he left me, saying, he was sorry he was engaged, and could not dine with me. I must not omit one thing, that he told me; which was, that he was extremely troubled to supersede my lord Granard, whom he loved with his heart; that he had reason to expect to have been a lieutenant general in England; but the king had ordered it otherwise, and he must submit.

mit. In the afternoon his lordship viewed the two troops of horse; and seemed to be well pleased with them, and with the performing of their exercises.

Tuesday the 8th. This morning the royal regiment drew up in St. Steven's Green; where my lord Tyrconnel viewed them, and saw them exercise: lieutenant colonel Dorington was in his post: I was not in the field. His lordship told the officers, that the king was so well satisfied in the long services of sir Ch. Feilding, that he had removed him to prefer him to a better post; and that he did the like for major Billingsley; who was then in the field, major Barker not being yet come. His lordship likewise said, (as I am informed) that his majesty did not remove any of the other officers out of any dislike, for he was well satisfied with their services; but to make room for other men of great merit. Then he presented captain Harman to the company he was to command; in the head of which was captain Marguetson, who said, he had bought his employment to shew his readiness to venture his life and fortune in the king's service; that, whilst he had been in it, he had behaved himself with loyalty and honour, and did now most readily submit to his majesty's pleasure.

Thus ended the day in the field. And now it is time to acknowledge yours of the 29th past from Windsor, and of the 1st instant. I told my lord Tyrconnel yesterday, that I had now received the paper concerning Mr. Price, and the king's commands for the examining it; that I intended to hear it myself, and to call my lord chancellor, and the judges who are of the privy council to my assistance, together with his lordship, and the rest

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of the field officers of the army. He said, it was very well; but there was no haste in it. I said, I would be very willing to stay, till he were at leisure; but it must be heard, that the king may have an account of it: to which he replied, well, pray let us talk of it another time. I know not, what he means; but a day or two hence I will call upon his lordship again. I likewise told my lord Tyrconnel, that I had received the king's commands for examining the matter relating to the muster-master general, and the clerk of the pells; that I intended to hear all that could be said in that matter in the presence of his lordship, my lord chancellor, the judges Nugent and Daly, colonel Macarty, colonel Hamilton, and sir Thomas Newcomen, or any others his lordship should desire; to which he said, pray let us stay, till Macarty comes: with all my heart, said I; and so these affairs stand for the present. I believe, I have by this time tired you with reading: I am sure, I have myself with writing. God keep you and yours. I refer you to my sister's for more stuff, if I have time to finish the letter I begun to her yesterday. Though I use to keep my writing days pretty quiet, yet these new commers will not learn it so soon, and will break in upon me; and I must not shut myself up from them at first, till they have emptied themselves: and they are long-winded talkers; which, I fear, has made this letter more confused than it should be.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, June 8. 1686.

SINCE my last my lord Tyrconnel and I have spent much time together in order to the executing his majesty's commands. The commissions for the new officers in the royal regiment of guards are already distributed; and my lord Tyrconnel is gone this morning into the field to see that regiment drawn up, and the new officers in their commands; of which you shall have a further account, before I end this letter. My lord Tyrconnel tells me, that, notwithstanding that the commissions are come signed by the king for sir Charles Feilding to have that regiment, late colonel Fairfax's, and for colonel Fairfax to have the government of Calmore fort, &c. yet it was his majesty's pleasure, that sir Charles Feilding should take his choice, which of the two employments he would have. Though I have no intimation hereof from your lordship, (which I could wish might have been) yet, considering what my lord Tyrconnel has said to me, and the latitude I have by my instructions, I hope, his majesty will not be displeased, that I have agreed to defer giving out those commissions, till I hear again from your lordship. And I am to acquaint you, that sir Charles Feilding does choose (if he may be allowed to do so) the government, and the company; and then colonel Fairfax will keep his regiment. If the king approves hereof, your lordship will take care to send over the commissions changed, as they ought to be. There remains but one thing more in this matter; which is to consider, what company shall

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be given to that government. In the list of the new officers, and in the commission designed for colonel Fairfax, captain Collyer's company of grenadiers was ordered him. My lord Tyrconnel is satisfied, it would be a hard case to turn Collyer quite out, and therefore that it may be offered to his majesty's consideration, what company to appoint for that government, since there is this delay in that affair upon sir Charles Feilding's account; which otherwise should not have been made, though I represented the truth of that poor man's case to your lordship in my last. Among the commissions there is one for Mr. John Butler, son to the lord Dunboine, to be lieutenant to my lord Kingston. My lord Tyrconnel tells me, it is a mistake, and his name ought to have been James; as likewise in the commission of Morris to be first lieutenant of the independant troop of grenadiers, his lordship says, that it is likewise a mistake; for Duncan, who is at present the second lieutenant, and has served long at Tangier, ought to be first, and Morris second; and therefore he would have me alter the commissions. I do not deny, but my lord Tyrconnel may be in the right; that Mr. Butler's christian name may be mistaken, and that according to the rule (if the king did not intend it otherwise) Mr. Morris should not come over the head of Duncan: but, I am sure, it is not fit for me to make any rafures in the commissions, after they are signed by the king, without his majesty's command; which shall be obeyed, as soon as your lordship signifies it to me. I told my lord Tyrconnel, that all I could do was upon his desire to defer the giving out those commissions, till I knew the king's pleasure; which would be no prejudice to the
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king's service, or to the parties concerned. If his majesty shall think fit to have Morris second lieutenant of the troop of grenadiers, both his commission must be altered, and Duncan must have a new one to be first lieutenant of that troop.

I have been discoursing with my lord Tyrconnel about putting unfit men out of the army: I mean those, who are unfit by age; and I would be very glad to know the king's pleasure, what shall be done with those men. They ought by the late king's charter of foundation to come into the hospital, and have a right to it, by the deductions which have been made from their pay; but the hospital is yet in debt, and, I doubt, cannot be in a condition to admit men into it, till towards christmas. I doubt, it will be hard to turn so many poor men a beggaring, who ought to be provided for; and therefore I humbly lay it before his majesty, what he will direct to have done in it.

If the king shall think fit to continue captain Collyer in the company of grenadiers, I ought to represent some other company to go along with the government of Calmore fort. Upon advice with lord Tyrconnel I presume to offer one of these three companies, sir Richard Rooth's, captain Lewis Dive's, or captain Francis Rolleston's; who are all in that regiment, which did belong to colonel Fairfax. I would not do any of them an ill office, to be the occasion of making them lose their command; for they are all very good, and deserving men: but captain Dive, though he be a worthy man, and of as loyal a family as any man can be, yet, I may say, he is very unwieldy, and therefore unfit for service; and besides his father's estate

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is lately fallen to him. If your lordship pleaseth, I would be glad to have his majesty's directions herein. My lord Tyrconnel was very well pleased with the regiment of guards; of which, I suppose, he has given your lordship a particular account, and therefore I need not say any thing of it. I believe, I have now tired your lordship. I am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most obedient and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

I have just now received your lordship's of the 3d instant; for which I give you many thanks.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, June 12. 1686.

WEDNESDAY the 9th. About nine in the morning my lord Tyrconnel came to me. He began with giving an account of the regiment of the guards; which he saw drawn together yesterday. He told me, he must own, it was a better regiment than he could have imagined; that it was much improved since his last being here, and did their exercises as well as any regiment in England; that he desires to view them again on saturday, and that they might be drawn into the park; which I told him he might do. He said, he thought there would be very few alterations needful to be made in that regiment, and but few men to be turned out. He said, this army had

had been never useful (which was a great dissatisfaction to the king) by reason of their never having been regimented, till of late ; and because the troops and companies have been quartered a dozen years together upon the estates of their captains, without having been once exercised ; which was the ruin of an army ; that the king was resolved to have his army well disciplined, that they might be useful to him. I answered, that I could not give an account of former times ; but I had observed, that his lordship owned, that the army here was in very good order and readiness the last year ; when part of it was sent into the north, and another part into England. By god, said he, that is very true. And, continued I, since my being here the regiment of guards has been drawn together constantly once a week, besides their being exercised every day in distinct companies ; and, for the rest of the army, strict orders had been given for them to be kept in constant discipline : and, if any of them were found faulty, the officers must answer it. Then he asked me, when he should be despatched into the country ? For, said he, I would fain have done every thing, that I might return into England. I said, when he pleased. Then, says he, I will go to my own house in the country tomorrow, and return at night ; and, if you please, we will meet on Friday morning to consider of the fittest places in the several counties for the troops to be quartered in for the present, that every regiment might be drawn as near together as conveniently might be. I answered, agreed. He then asked, when will you consider of the king's letter about admitting the roman catholics into corporations, and putting in justices of the peace,

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and sheriffs? I told him, that, for the corporations, I was advising about the best and readiest way of doing the busines ; that I had already discoursed with Mr. justice Daley about the town of Galway ; where there were most of the trading roman catholick merchants, and with which town and county he was particularly acquainted, all his concerns and relations being there ; and that I was advising with other roman catholicks concerning other places, and that it would not be long, before he should see that affair in as good a progres as he could desire : that for the sheriffs, I would give such orders to the judges, when they went their circuits, as was necessary for presenting to me proper persons, roman catholicks, for those employments ; and I should render such an account thereof, as, I was confident, the king would be pleased with ; and, if there were any counties for which his lordship was any way concerned, I would be glad to be informed by him : that for the justices of the peace, that was more peculiarly my lord chancellor's province ; that I had acquainted him with the king's letter, and I doubted not, but he would give a good account thereof. He then said, by god, my lord, I must needs tell you, the sheriffs you made are generally rogues, and old Cromwellians ; but I justified your excellency to the king, and told him, you were not to be blamed ; that you could not at that time know people yourself, and were advised by the late chancellor : and that he knew very well, the roll, which I had pricked, was prepared before I came over. I told him, it was true, I could not then be acquainted with many ; that I had advised with the late chancellor, as I should always do with whomever the king puts into that station ;

station ; and especially it having been the constant practice for the lord lieutenant to have nobody with him, when he pricks sheriffs, but the chancellor, and his own secretaries : but after all that I was not influenced by the then chancellor ; and, as great a stranger as I was in this country, I had taken my informations from other worthy men, both catholicks as well as protestants ; and that a third part of the sheriffs, which I had nominated, were new men, and not upon the roll ; and, when all was done, I would justify, that these sheriffs, generally speaking, were as good a set of men, as any had been chosen these dozen years ; and I would be judged by the roman catholicks in any county. By god, said he, I believe it ; for there has not been an honest man sheriff in Ireland these 20 years. That, said I, is a hard censure ; but it is not my busines to find out the faults of 20 years past : I hoped, I should give a good account of my own actions. I said, I could not but think it a little odd to receive out of England a list of the sheriffs with animadversions upon every name, and some of them in such expressions as looked very malicious : but I had given a very particular answer to them ; which, I hoped, had satisfied the king, because I had not heard to the contrary. He told me, you must not wonder at such things : some men love to be officious. Those animadversions upon the sheriffs were made by sir Robert Hamilton, and Mr. Sheridan. To which I made no reply, though, I think, here might be room for wonder ; but just now came in my lord chancellor. My lord Tyrconnel presently fell a discoursing with him about the justices of the peace. My lord, says the chancellor, my lord lieuténant has shewed me the king's

king's letter, and I am taking the best method I can for the speedy obeying it. I have spoken to the 3 roman catholick judges, and to others of quality of that religion to furnish me with the names of honest men in the several counties, fit for the employment; and the thing shall be done as it ought to be: and, if your lordship will give me any names, you will oblige me. By god, says lord T—, I see, you will be a great while about it. My lord, says the chancellor, the king knows, I was never slack in his service; and he shall not now find me guilty of that fault. We were now called to dinner, and so we parted: you see, how finely we spend our time. In the afternoon I went to council; where were sworn lords Tyrconnel, Lymericke, Ikerin, Galmoy, sir William Wentworth, the 3 new judges, and colonel Hamilton. The rest of the new counsellors were not in town: only Mr. Nangle the lawyer keeps his letter for the reasons I have formerly mentioned. We had no great busines at council; and so ended the day. But I had almost forgot telling you, that in the morning lord Granard came to me, and told me, that lord Tyrconnel had told him in a great fury, that the king would be very angry, if he declined being president of the council; and therefore he desired me to bring the king's letter with me in the afternoon: for, he said, he never yet willingly offended the crown in his life, and would not now do it at the end of his days. Accordingly the letter was read at the board; after which lord Granard said, he had had the honour to have had several commissions of great trust from the crown, and was very sensible of his majesty's gracious intentions in this letter: but it was a new thing; had never been in this kingdom before;

fore; that neither the busines, nor the rank of the place was known here; and he did not desire, any new thing should be set up for him; and said, he would make his application to the king very speedily: which he said with great modesty, but would not change his place; and I am confident, he intends to retire. He has already lent his seat in the country, and has very freely told me, now he is out of employment, it is necessary for him to take up, and be some time out of the way, for the repairing of his fortune; and I believe, he means to go into England.

Thursday the 10th. My lord Tyrconnel is gone today with his lady to his country house; and so I have nothing to say upon his account. On tuesday my lord Ikerine brought me the king's letter for reversing his, and my lord Gormanstowne's outlawries; which I have this day sent to Mr. attorney general. That matter will not go so smoothly, as was thought; but, if you please, say nothing of it, till I tell you more from Mr. attorney. It seems there arise difficulties, which were not foreseen by those, who advised the petition. This evening the roman catholick primate was with me. He asked me, whether I had received orders from the king for the paying any money to him. I told him, no. He said, he had had sometime since a letter from the king declaring, that he would make certain allowances to the roman catholick arch-bishops and bishops; and that they were all to be paid to him, and he was to distribute the money according to his ma-jesty's directions. I told him, I had not as yet received any orders concerning him.

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Friday

Friday the 11th. About 10 in the morning my lord Tyrconnel came to me, and some of the officers of the army with him. Our busines was to agree upon a plan for the quartering the army; it being necessary for those troops, which had been long in a place, to be changed; and for the troops and companies to be brought to nearer distances, than was convenient in the winter; that the regiments, or at least batalions may be drawn easily together for exercise and discipline. We agreed upon the general scheme, and have appointed to meet to settle it tomorrow in the afternoon. As soon as it is perfected, it shall be sent you: it being pretty late, they dined with me. When we were above stairs, he took me aside, and said, the more I think of some of these changes, the more I am grieved: who a devil named these men, I know not. The king, I am sure, took his informations from the colonels; but, by god, here is one of the most crying cases was ever heard of; and that is poor captain Ridley, who is not only a purchaser, but as deserving as any man of his age could be, both upon his own account and that of his family. God damn me, there is not a man in town, but has spoken to me in his behalf; and therefore I beg your excellency not to deliver out his commission, till we hear again from England; and I beseech you to write in his behalf; for, by god, I will do it effectually. I told him, I would very willingly respite the giving out the commission for his company; that I could justify the delaying it by my instructions; that I had as good an opinion of captain Ridley as any man, and had reason to be concerned both for him and his officers, having employed them myself in suppressing the tories, in
which

which they had done eminent service ; that his lieutenant had in that occasion received a shot in his head, of which he was but newly recovered, and both he and the ensign were now turned out ; which certainly every body must think very hard. God damn those, said he, who represented these men to the king : I am sure, I had nothing to do in it. My lord, said I, truly I know not, who had ; but it could not be the colonel ; for this was in my lord Granard's regiment, and he was not in England. You say right, said he, but now I remember, the alterations made in Granard's regiment were designed by the late king, when my lord treasurer was nominated to be lord lieutenant. We dined ; and after dinner he desired to draw the regiment together again tomorrow ; to which I agreed : and so ended this day's conversation. This morning arrived a packet from England ; which brought me yours of the 5th from Hampton-Court ; by which I was glad to find, that W. Legg was arrived, and that you had received all my despatches. I will say no more upon the subject of them, till I know, what the king says : but, (which my lord chief justice Keating hints in his paper) if the proposal be granted, the sooner it is known, the better ; which, I hope, will fix people ; for you cannot imagine, how many are every day unsettling.

I am very glad of the grace the king has shewed to the dutchess of Monmouth: I think, she will give a very good account of her children.

Saturday the 12th. This morning lord Tyrconnel drew out the regiment of guards again into the park, and called out such men, as he thought not fit to serve; but put out nobody: in the afternoon when he came to me, lie

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gave me an account thereof, and said, when the lists were written out, which he had made in the field, I should see them ; and then I might judge, when, and how the men might be put out ; and that in the mean time they might continue, and do duty as they had done ; and by that means there would be no alarm of putting out so many men together, for he believed, the number he had marked was about 300. I said, that was very well ; when he shewed me the lists of those whom he thought not fit for service, I could by the muster rolls see, how long they had served ; for all, who had served 7 years, had a right by the late king's charter to be provided for by the hospital ; that I had already acquainted his lordship, how the state of that matter stood, and that I had already written to my lord president to acquaint the king therewith ; whose directions I hoped quickly to receive, how those men, who had a right to the hospital, should be provided for. Then we proceeded to settling the quarters for the army, which we finished ; a perfect scheme whereof you shall have by the next. And now it is pretty late, and I am even weary ; and the packet goes off to-morrow morning : my next shall take up where I leave. God almighty keep you and yours.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, June 12. 1686.

ON wednesday last the council met, and all the new privy counsellors, who are in town, were sworn ; as the others will be, as soon as they come, except Mr. Nangle ;

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Nangle; who has his letter, and says, he will keep it as a mark of the king's grace and favour to him, but would not be sworn for the reasons I told you formerly. I likewise communicated the king's letter to the board concerning the appointing a president of the council; upon which my lord Granard spake with great modesty, that he had had the honour to serve the king and his royal brother in commissions of great trust, and would be ever ready to serve his majesty in any way, as long as he had life; that he was abundantly sensible of his majesty's goodness and bounty to him, and his family: but, as for this place of president, it would in many respects be inconvenient to him; and therefore he hoped, his majesty would not be offended, if he took his own time to make his application to him: and so would not change his place. My lord, I find, thinks it fit for him to go into England, having several occasions concerning his own affairs; and I perceive, he thinks it necessary for him to live more retired than he has done. And now, if your lordship please to give me leave, I will acquaint you a little with the state of the council board here. Here never was a president, as I told your lordship formerly, nor has he any rank given him by the statute: and in truth there is no need of such an office; for nobody can call or summon a council here, but the chief governour; who appoints committees to give an account of particular matters, which he refers to them, as he thinks fit; and, when at any time the chief governour goes out of the province, he issues out a commission under the great seal to the council, directing them to meet as they shall judge convenient. I only lay this before your lordship with submission.

I had

I had yesterday a meeting with my lord Tyrconnel, colonel Hamilton, and sir Thomas Newcomen ; and we have agreed upon the quarters for the whole army to be changed : those, which were in Ulster, to be brought into Munster, and so those from Munster into Ulster ; and so the other provinces. Only major general Macarty's regiment, though it has been this last year in Munster, we have not thought fit to change, till he comes over himself : when the whole is settled, the king shall have a perfect scheme sent him.

I believe, I shall never have done representing the hard cases of some of the unfortunate officers, who are now laid aside. That which is most pressing at this time is the case of captain Ridley ; in whose behalf, my lord Tyrconnel says, he will write as earnestly as he can, and has therefore preffed me not to deliver out the commission for his company, till we hear again from your lordship ; which, I know, I may do by the liberty given me by my instructions, especially considering how few there are delayed ; for all are delivered out which have been called for, except this, and those which I gave you an account of in my last. To make your lordship's trouble the shorter in captain Ridley's case, I send you the petition he gave me. As to the first part of it, to what he says of being employed by me, is perfectly true ; and his lieutenant, and ensign were employed in the same service. The first was really shot in the head, and is but newly recovered ; which makes his case the harder, considering how ready he was upon every occasion to venture his life in the king's service. I am sure, I cannot do better than to recommend him to your lordship's protection. Two nights since

since the roman catholick primate came to me, and asked me, whether I had any orders for the paying him any money : I told him, I had not. He said, he had a letter from the king, declaring his intentions what his majesty intended to allow every arch-bishop, and bishop ; and that all the money was to be paid to him ; and he was in hopes, I might have had orders in it by this time. I assured him, I had none ; and that he should know it, as soon as I had any. He then desired me to write to your lordship about it ; which I promised him to do : and I shall be glad to receive his majesty's directions, what answer to make herein.

If his majesty shall think fit to continue captain Ridley in his command, then captain Toby Caulfield will want a company : by the next post I will offer your lordship a fit way to provide for him ; and, I am sure, my lord Tyrconnel will do the same. I am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDRON, C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, June 15. 1686.

SUNDAY the 13th. I did not see my lord Tyrconnel today ; so that I have nothing to give you an account of with reference to him, only that about noon, after I came from church, captain Ridley came to me, and said, my lord Tyrconnel presented his service to me, and

and desired me not to write into England upon his case, till he had spoken with me. I told him, it was too late: my letter was gone.. I could tell you many stories of him, and of his carriage towards particular persons, who have complained to me; but I will not yet take notice of any of those, nor of any thing, but continue a perfect diary of what passes between my lord Tyrconnel and me; which at one time or other may perhaps be proper to be shewed. But indeed I fear, his violent, extravagant temper may hurt the king's busines: for the particular slights he puts upon me, I am sure, I will take no notice of them to any one living, though some of them are pretty publick; but there is nothing, I will not do, or bear for the king's service. Nor will I trouble you with the idle stories of the adoration that is paid to him: let time, and patience shew all.

Monday the 14th. About 10 in the morning lord Tyrconnel came to me, and said, he had many things to say to me. He begun with telling me, that nothing was yet done about the justices of the peace. I desired him to consider, that he came to town but on saturday was sen-night; that on sunday he gave me the king's letters; that on monday I communicated them to my lord chancellor; that on wednesday, his lordship might remember, my lord chancellor told him in my closet, that he had spoken to the 3 new judges, and to several other roman catholicks, to give him lists of men fit to be employed, and, if his lordship would give him any names, he would take it for a favour; and that before the judges went their circuits, which would be very speedily, the commissions would be renewed, and the roman catholicks

licks in ; and that I was very confident, the king would be satisfied, that there was not a day lost in executing his commands ; but there must be a necessary time given for doing every thing. What will you do, said he, about the sheriffs ? Why, my lord, said I, I will obey the king in that, as well as in every thing else. When the judges come to me to receive directions for their circuits, one, which I will give them, shall be to return such roman catholicks in the lists for sheriff for the next year, as they should think fit. Indeed, said he, I think that is the best way, and it cannot be done sooner. Pray, my lord, said I, you will not mistrust me for delaying what the king would have done. But, my lord, said he, you have done nothing about the corporations, which the king will have done ; and you have approved of the mayor, and sheriffs of Dublin for the next year : and, by god, they are all 3 as ill men as could be chosen ; two of them rank fanatics. My lord, said I, the choosing of those men was no secret ; it was done at the common council ; that there was three weeks between the time of election, and the approbation ; that I endeavoured to inform myself, as well as I could, by catholicks as well as protestants, of the men ; that I heard good characters of them, and, when the matter came before the council, there was not one person, who did not approve of the election ; that, for the mayor elect, he had the repute of a very honest man ; that he is brother to Mr. Castleton of the post-office in London, whom the king knows to be an honest man : but, after all this, if his lordship would say upon his own knowledge, that any of the 3 were by their practice or principles ill men, or bring any body else of worth and

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reputation who would say so; they should be yet set by. His answer to this was, I know none of the men myself; only one of the sheriffs was heretofore my taylor, whom I never heard well of; but, since I saw you on saturday, very good men, roman catholicks and protestants, have given me this account of them. I said, it was very strange, none of them would in all this time tell me so. My lord, said he, you must not wonder, many come to me, who will not trouble your excellency. I hope, you are not angry, that men apply themselves to me: I shall always tell you things as soon as I hear them. No, my lord, said I, I am not angry, that people apply to you; but I think, they would do well to apply to me too: and, as to the matter now in debate, if the men chosen for Dublin are so ill men, I think, those, who had informed you of it, might sooner have informed me; and then they would have been able to have judged, whether I had minded what they said to me: and therefore his lordship must give me leave to press him to tell me the reason, why those men, who had informed him, made any difficulty of coming to me; that the help I expected from him and any others in the king's service was to encourage people to apply to me; though I hoped there was no need of it, because, I was sure, every creature from the highest to the lowest had access to me, and might have every day in the year. Why then, my lord, says he, I will tell you plainly, (for you shall always find me a plain man) these men, who have been with me, to tell you truly, do apprehend, you are inclined the other way. My lord, said I, that is a reflection, which your lordship under favour ought not to seem to give credit to without reason; and, if

if you have reason, pray tell me ; and see, if I do not satisfy you. Alas ! said he, I have no reason to think you partial : I only tell you, what people say. My lord, said I, people must not be heard say so without giving some ground for it ; that I had had the good fortune to have the thanks of many worthy people of both religions for the easy access I gave, and for the equality I shewed ; that, if there was any one catholick in Ireland, who would charge me with partiality in any one instance, I would be contented to be judged by himself ; and therefore I must press to know the reason, why I was thought by any to be inclined the other way, as he said. By god, my lord, said he, you must not wonder, if the catholicks do think you a little partial after your making such a set of sheriffs, who are four parts of five rogues : but, by god, I justified you to the king in that particular ; for it could not be your fault, you were then so great a stranger here, and must take your measures from the late chancellor ; and the roll was put into your hand. My lord, said I, pray consider what you say : you own, I could make no better sheriffs ; and yet you seem to say, the catholicks have reason to think me partial for making them. But, my lord, continued I, I was not influenced by the late chancellor ; but took the advice particularly of any roman catholick : and, after all, that I would still insist upon it, that these sheriffs were generally as good men, as have been at any time made ; and that there has not been any complaint from any one county of the least mis-carriage committed by any of them ; that his lordship himself owned, they could not expect roman catholicks in many counties in Ulster ; and I would refer myself to

the roman catholicks, whether there were not good sheriffs in all the province of Connaught, King's county, and county of Clare, as well as in some other counties, which I could name.

This, I think, is the substance of this day's conference; and I cannot conclude my letter without telling you, that I look upon it as a great mortification, that my lord Tyrconnel should tell me, after all the caution and care I have taken, that I am looked upon to be partial for doing that, which he himself owns could be no otherwise: and when I am sure, there is not a catholick here, who will not justify my proceedings. But those catholicks, who do not agree with him in his extravagancies, his lordship is pleased to call trimmers; and so they, and myself too must be liable to be represented, as he pleafeth. But thanks be to god, my comfort is, the king will not condemn any body, till he be well informed: and another comfort, other people have, (how it may influence the king's affairs, is another consideration) is, that, if this lord continue in the temper he is, he will gain the reputation here of a madman; for his treatment of people is scarce to be described. But a little time will discover him more: I wish, colonel Macarty were here; who is a worthy man, and esteemed by every body.

Tuesday the 15th. I have not seen my lord Tyrconnel today, and so have but little to say to you: only I cannot omit telling you a little story, because it has made so great noise here, that I doubt, it will be written over; and, if the truth be not known, may by some people make as much noise there; though it be nothing. The matter is this. Last night, as I was going to bed, my servant

fervant asked me, whether I would go tomorrow into the field, because the regiment drew out. I said, no; which was all I said to him. I sent for the captain of the guard, and asked him, what orders he had to march into the field: he told me, the lieutenant colonel had given orders for the whole regiment to draw out this morning. I bid him (without making any reflection, or saying, why) let the lieutenant colonel know, that I would not have the regiment draw out today, and that I would speak with him in the morning. Accordingly this morning the lieutenant colonel came to me, and said, he came to beg my pardon; that he was sensible, he had done an ill thing in ordering the regiment to draw out without my orders; which he did not know was the custom, till this morning; but he would never do so again. I told him, I was indeed a little surprised to find by accident, (as in truth it was) that the regiment was ordered into the field, and that I knew nothing of it; that it never had been done here without the knowledge of the chief governour, and there was reason for it; it being the only regiment in town, and one company always in duty at the castle, it was not fit, they should be drawn away, or the regiment drawn into the field without the chief governour's knowledge; that I did believe, what had been ordered was by mistake, and I was very well satisfied with what he had said. He then desired, he might draw out the regiment tomorrow; to which I said, with all my heart, and as often as he thought fit, he only speaking to me of it before: and so we parted very good friends, with a thousand professions, &c.

You

LETTERS OF

You now know the truth, in case you hear the matter spoken of; for it has made a wonderful noise here, as almost every thing does. If you were here, you would think, I did very well to let these gentlemen see at the beginning, that they are to take notice of me; for some of them are ready enough to take upon them, and think, they are to govern the world. God keep you and all yours.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, June 19. 1686.

WEDNESDAY the 16th. In the afternoon, it being council day, my lord Barrimore, and Mr. Purcell were sworn of the council, being come to town since the last week. After council my lord Tyrconnel came home with me, and my lord chief justice Keating. Lord Tyrconnel told me, now the matter of removing the quarters of the army was settled, he intended, whilst the regiments were removing, to go to Wexford for his health to drink the waters there; in order to which he would go to his own house tomorrow: and therefore he desired, he might have his orders for inspecting and purging the army; which, I told him, were ready, and gave them to him; a copy whereof is here enclosed, that you may see, and justify me, when convenient, that I have fully and perfectly obeyed the king, how disparaging soever to myself; which, I pray god, may not in the consequence be of disadvantage to his majesty. His lordship then fell to discourse of the business of the corporations.

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I replied, that I had already told him, when he and I talked last together, that that affair was put into a way, as well as the rest of the king's commands, for a speedy execution, and the most for his majesty's service. My lord Tyrconnel, says my lord chief justice K—, things must be done carefully; and directions must not be given, which may be liable to be contradicted afterwards: I told your lordship when you were with me, that my lord lieutenant had shewed me the king's letter; that I took the meaning of it to be, that his majesty would not have the being a roman catholick a bar to any man from enjoying all privileges, &c. equal with his other subjects; and therefore the oath of supremacy was not to be tendered, which will do the work: but I do not conceive it to be his majesty's intention, that the being a roman catholick should intitle a man to be free of any corporation, if he be not otherwise qualified; no more than the being a protestant will intitle a man, if he be not otherwise qualified. By god, said my lord Tyrconnel, I do not know what to say to that: I would have all the catholicks in; and so he named several persons of this city. My lord, continued Keating, in truth you do not understand these matters: many of these, you have named, ought not to be free of this city; and yet they enjoy all advantages, and trade as freely, as the rest of the king's subjects who are in their circumstances: and many of them, to my knowledge, said he, may have their freedoms upon their own terms, if they please; but when it comes to it, they will not forsooth submit to the rules of government; that is, (said he) they will have the benefit and advantages of freemen, and will not bear, nor contribute towards the

the bearing any of the burdens incident to freemen; which, I know, is the case in several other corporations as well as this: and truly, my lord, (continued he) when the king intends to put all his subjects in the like circumstances, (which his letter says expressly) it will not become the government here to give one sort of men more privileges than another: which, I am sure, will be great partiality, and not for the king's service; and therefore, said he, let us not be partial, when we pretend to be equal. My lord Tyrconnel, said I, it is a wonderful thing, that none of these men you have named (and he named but four or five) do come to me. God damn me, says he, can I help that? They are men of busines; but I am sure, they make these complaints to me. My lord, said I, they have certainly as much leisure to come to me, as to your lordship; and, if you would bid them, when they come to you, apply themselves to the lord lieutenant where they ought to go, you would ease yourself of a great deal of trouble, which is not your busines; and the men concerned would be able to judge, whether they had reason to complain of me or not. Indeed, my lord, said Keating, I have often told you, things must go in their proper channel. Well, said my lord Tyrconnel, let us speak a little of the disarming the people in Ulster; for that work was never well done. My lord, said Keating, my lord lieutenant shewed me the king's letter about that affair a week since; and it must be prudently and carefully managed, or else it will not be effectually done again. By god, said my lord Tyrconnel, if you bring it to the council board, it will miscarry again, as it did last year. My lord, said I, I appointed this meeting, and my lord

Lord chief justice K— to be here at your desire, to discourse this affair together; that Mr. Cor. O Neile was without; who being called in gave an account of what orders I had given him to search for arms in those parts, and how far he had executed them: we then discoursed upon what was now fit to be done, and agreed upon the method. After this (we three being alone; for C. O Neile was gone out again) I said, my lord Tyrconnel, you are now going into the country, and will view the troops at the places appointed: I must desire you to be a little careful; that you could not but know the apprehensions people were in, and the alarm they had taken upon these changes, though without ground; and therefore pray, my lord, do not fright people by making them believe, that the king excludes any of his subjects from his service; that the busines of all honest men was to reconcile interests and parties, for the divisions were too great already. He said, by god, my lord, I never asked a soldier in my life, what religion he was of; and the orders I have given to the officers, who are now going to their quarters, are, to put out all men, who are disaffected, or not fit for the service; and to take in others, who are the most sightly, and the fittest men, without making religion a distinction. I told him, it was very well, if he gave those orders; which were certainly more for the king's service than in another stile, and would as well do what the king desired: the reason why I gave him the caution was, because some of the officers, roman catholicks, had not been so discreet, but had talked very foolishly and too publickly in another strain; and therefore I thought fit to acquaint him with it, that he might give them good ad-

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vice ; which I could not do, without taking more notice of it than I had a mind to. For god's sake, said Keating, let there be no such orders given ; for nothing could be more prejudicial to the king's service than to have it thought, that an Englishman must not be in his service. To which my lord Tyrconnel replied, more calmly than he uses to speak, that he would take care, there should be no complaint. It being now past 8 at night, my lord chief justice Keating went away. Well, said my lord Tyrconnel, I will come to you again tomorrow, before I go out of town : I have only one thing more to say at present, and that is concerning baron Worth ; who, by god, is a damned rogue. How so, my lord, said I ? A pox, said he, you know, he is a whig, and the greatest favourer of fanaticks in the world : he thinks, he governs Munster ; and he has been the greatest persecutor of the catholicks in the kingdom. My lord, said I, I know not baron Worth, but as I find him in the king's service here ; and in that, I must needs say, he behaves himself as an honest man ought to do, and that all people, catholicks as well as protestants, gave me a good character of him ; and I did believe, he would be content to be judged by the roman catholicks of Munster themselves for his behaviour towards them in the worst of times. By god, said he, I will prove him to be a rogue. Pray do, my lord, said I : any charge you bring against him shall be examined ; and let him stand and fall according to his merit. By god, I will have it brought to the council board, said he : the king has an ill opinion of him ; and I will do his business. My lord, said I, after what you have said I shall desire your lordship, that the objections you have

have to him may be examined, and the more publick the better for the king's service ; and therefore I shall put you in mind of it : in the mean time, said I, when will you be ready to have Mr. Price's busines heard ? What a devil, says he, is to be heard ? You have remedied the great matter, the impresting of money. My lord, said I, I have the king's command to examine it, your lordship not being satisfied with the answer Mr. Price sent into England ; and therefore I must appoint a time for the hearing of it, and likewise of the other affair concerning the muster-master general. Well, said he, pray let them both alone, till Macarty comes over ; and then we will talk of it. It was now pretty late ; and so we parted.

Thursday the 17th. About 10 in the morning my lord Tyrconnel came to me. He asked me, if I had given order for the pay of the reformed officers, whom the king intended to provide for, as vacancies should happen ; and in the mean time that they were to be dispersed into the several companies to do no duty, and to have an additional allowance besides their pay : I told him, I knew nothing of these men, and had received no orders concerning them. Sure, my lord, says he, you forget ; for I brought you the king's letter concerning them. Indeed, said I, you brought me no orders concerning these men. Finding, he had nothing else to say, I said, I hoped he had remembered baron Worth, and would tell me some of the particulars against him ; for, if he were the man he had represented him to be, he ought not to be in the king's service ; and it was a grievous thing for a man's reputation to be blasted without a possibility of being righted. God damn me, says he, I know nothing of

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him,

him, but what the people say ; and common fame makes him to be a fanatick. My lord, said I, if you will allow of common fame, neither you, nor I, nor any one can be safe. By god, then, said he, to be plain with you, pray ask my lord chief justice Keating about Worth. I know, said I, Keating's opinion of him ; and that Keating on sunday night last, at my lord chancellor's, gave you a very good character of Worth upon his own experience, and acquaintance ; and therefore why do you bid me ask him ? By god, said he, (though a little blank) that is true ; and I know, the king has no ill opinion of him ; (observe these contradictions) but people tell me things. My lord, said I, you will have things enough told you, and be troubled enough, if you will seem to believe what is told you, and not enquire into the truth. Well, said he, I have told you all I can say. My lord, said I, why did you not (as you promised me) appoint Mr. Hore, and Mr. Lincolne to be here ; who were two of the persons, (as you said) that told you, they suspected me to be inclined the other way, by reason of the sheriffs, which I had made upon my first arrival here ? Well, well, said he, they are honest men. I believe they are, said I, by all I have ever heard ; and therefore I desire to hear, what they will say as to my partiality ; which was a fault, I was resolved, I would not be justly charged with. Fie, said he, you have talked of what I said to you upon that matter. I have, said I, to Mr. justice Daly, and to one roman catholick more, who have been pretty often with me, and who know me : and, since your lordship will not bring Mr. Hore, and Mr. Lincolne to me, I will send for them myself. And so we parted, with a thousand compliments

compliments of friendship, &c. and that I should be sure to hear from him from every place he went to. As soon as he had dined, he went out of town to his own house; and from thence goes tomorrow to Wexford to the waters, but will see my lord Blessington's troop by the way at Naas. Indeed the method of his proceeding is very extraordinary, with that extravagance and violence, that one would think him discomposed in his mind; and some of the catholicks have talked prettily plainly to him. He said nothing more to me of the reformed officers, whom the king intended to provide for, than what I have told you in the first side of this sheet; but just before he went out of town he sent for colonel Russell, and told him, he must observe that order, a copy wherof is here enclosed. Sure it is a little odd, that a subordinate officer (for so, I must have leave to say, he is at present to me) should order men to be received into the troops with particular privileges of being duty free, and not so much as tell the chief governour of it: sure this would be put upon nobody but me; and, I dare say, was never put upon any one, whom the king did not intend to mortify to a great degree. Pray, observe his skill: there is no date to the order, nor any recital of the king's order to him for the providing for those men; and it is directed to colonel John Russell, whereas his name is Theodore. But his lordship thinks me very scrupulous, that I will not, upon his telling me it is the king's pleasure, order them to be paid 6d. a day besides their pay; and, I think, there are 60 of them. One of his methods is, when he has seen a troop, he sends for, or writes to the captain; and tells him, the lieutenant has informed him so, and so; and that

that he has given him, the lieutenant, order to put such men out, and to take such others in, as he, the lieutenant, shall approve of. Certainly this is a very unusual way of giving orders; and methinks, the captain might have been trusted; for, had he not done what had been expected, there would have been more advantage against him, than I believe any of them will give. In truth I could have done all, that my lord Tyrconnel is to do, full as well to the king's intent; for which I would have been judged by those officers, whom the king has the best opinion of; and not have made those jealousies, which his unhappy temper strikes into the people: but the king's pleasure is to be fulfilled; and so it has been, and ever shall be by me, notwithstanding the mean opinion it begets in people towards me. But it is not the first mortification I have had in his majesty's service: and I confess, I did not now expect any, if I did not deserve it; which I would be very sorry to do, and do not know, that I have.

Friday the 18th. I have very little to say to you today more than that I received yesterday your's of the 8th instant. I will say nothing at present upon the projected commission, but observe the directions you give me. If my lord chief justice Keating's paper be minded, methinks, he states the question of a parliament very fully; and thinks it better to have this commission, before a parliament be called here. If I am capable of making any judgment in this matter, this commission would do more than any thing towards the quieting men's minds; and it being executed before a parliament be called would rather encrease, than lessen the gift of a parliament. The king

king will always have it in his power to bestow such graces upon his people, as they will be always ready here to give him whatever he askes, or shall have need of : but I doubt, men's hearts will not be much at ease to give, whilst they are afraid they shall lose their lands. And I pray, let it be considered, that, if it should be thought fit to call a parliament, and that the king will have an act to confirm the possessions as now they are, that act must be prepared at the council board here ; which will bring multitudes of people to Dublin to see themselves provided for ; and all that time the trade and busines of the country will be at a stand. When the act shall come to be thus agreed to here, it must then go into England ; where, at the council board, it is to receive alterations and amendments, such as the king shall think fit : and most certainly half Ireland will go over to obtain and prevent provisos ; and in the mean time it cannot be expected, that there should be any confiderable trade here, while things seem to be in a suspence : whereas, if the commission be first executed, a very short act of few lines will serve for confirmation. These are my rude thoughts for the present ; and much more may, and can be said by wise men upon this subject.

Saturday the 19th. This morning I sent for Mr. Hore, and Mr. Lincolne to come to me. The latter was abroad, the first came : my two secretaries were present. I told him all, that my lord Tyrconnel had said to me ; at which he seemed a little surprised. He said, he would tell me truly all, that had passed between my lord Tyrconnel and him ; that 5 or 6 days since my lord Tyrconnel had sent for him ; and, after he had talked with him a little of other

other things, he asked him, 'what this mayor elect was, and whether he were not a fanatick. Hore says, he answered, that he had not much acquaintance with him ; that he never heard of his being a fanatick ; that he believed, he was no great statesman, but was reputed a very honest man. Then my lord Tyrconnel asked him, what the 2 new sheriffs were. He said, one of them he did not know, and that he was not much acquainted with the other, but had heard heretofore, that he used to go to meetings ; but could say nothing of his own knowledge. But, my lord, said Hore, your excellency's name was never mentioned between us ; nor did I so much as mention to my lord Tyrconnel any thing of the sheriffs in the countries ; for I do not understand it, nor is it my busines to go out of my way. My lord Tyrconnel sent for me, and I went to him ; and, if I had any thing to trouble your excellency with, I shall take the boldnes to attend you : which, I said, he might do very freely ; and so we parted. Judge now, what a fine busines this is ; and whether the imagination of my being partial do not arise from my lord Tyrconnel's own invention, or from somebody, whom he will not name. Well, after all this, I will carry myself towards him as I ought. I am just now informed from a good hand, that my lord Tyrconnel has sent into England for larger powers : sure, methinks, the king might think, how by his letter he has retrenched the power and authority he gave me under the great seal ; and I do not know, that I deserve that mortification, which will make all the world quickly look upon me as a most pitiful creature. God keep you and all yours.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, June 22. 1686.

I TOLD you in my last, I had received your's by the tory ; who is very sensible of the favours you have shewed him. As to the prosecutions are now against him, I will take care to see justice done. I could have wished, he had had any other lieutenant, than him he has. He who was his lieutenant is (as many other good and brave men are) put out without any fault laid to his charge ; and the person put in is one Magennis, with whom the great contest has been, and is still depending before the council board. They are both good men, and will do the king good service ; but, it is to be doubted, such feuds as have been between these two cannot so soon be made up, as to make them fit to live with one another : but this, as all other things, must be as the king pleaseth. I fully understand what you say concerning honours to be done to my lord Tyrconnel ; and will take care therein, as you advise. In my postscript to my last, which, I confess, was too long a letter, I acknowledged your's of the 8th, and said as much as was fit then upon the material part of it, the commission of grace. I have punctually followed your directions, and not said one word more to my lord chancellor, or lord chief justice Keating, than you directed : and so I will say nothing more upon that subject, till I have occasion given me from England.

On Sunday I received your's of the 12th instant; to which, I think, I have not much to reply at present. I will only say one word more to the commission of grace;

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that, if I had thought it fit to have proceeded that way, I could have had an address (and I believe, I could have yet) made to me from the whole province of Connaught, to petition the king to grant such a commission as is desired; but I, who have always in more dangerous times opposed popular petitions, did not think fit to countenance that method: and so that design was laid aside, as I am credibly informed by several roman catholicks, which was intended to have been carried on at the last lent assizes. Whether my lord Tyrconnel will continue to be so terrible as he is at present, nothing but time will determine: at present nothing can more dissatisfy honest men, than the ranting, swaggering way he is in, and the abominable insolent language he treats men with. He has had very good counsel given him by some roman catholicks; whom he cursed to 10 thousand devils for their pains. He is gone to the waters; which, it is hoped, may cool him: if not, he will be looked upon as a man beside himself. I have not heard a word of him since he went. The great changes, which have been made in the council, do not please even the wisest of the chatholicks; it being the too common practice of the world to be dissatisfied with what our superiors do: but many old cavalier soldiers of that religion do think themselves neglected, when young men of no experience (as they say) are made counsellors, and others are put into the army, because they have served beyond sea; which, they say, is not true; for several are now made officers, who never served any where, and no care taken of them, who have been in all the battles, and lost their blood and relations in the service of the crown. These changes, and the common

mon discourses which are given out by some of the new officers, (by authority, as they pretend) that they will not leave an Englishman, or a protestant in their companies, do very much terrify the trading people, for reasons too obvious to every man's apprehension. In a word, it is impossible to tell you the alterations, that are grown in men within this month : but the last week (for I am ver-ry inquisitive to be informed of those particulars) 120 people went in one ship from hence to Chester ; and multitudes are preparing from all parts of the kingdom to be gone, as fast as they can get in their debts, and dispose of their stocks. Great sums of money are brought to town, and more is daily coming up to be sent away ; and, in re-gard the exchange is so high, (for it is risen 20s. in 100l. within these four days) and that no returns, even at these high rates, can be gotten into England, they are endea-vouring to remit their money into France and Holland, to draw it from thence hereafter at leisure. In the mean time there is no money in the country ; and the native commodities yield nothing. The king's quitrents, and chimney-money come in very slowly. To distrain signi-fies nothing, or very little ; for the collector cannot sell the distress, when he has taken it ; that is, nobody will buy it. These are sad stories ; but they are great truths. And I will by the next entertain you more at large con-cerning them in a letter to the treasury, which may be shewed ; as this may, if you think it proper. I have re-ceived your's of the 12th from the treasury chamber con-cerning reliefs ; which I have referred to Mr. solicitor ge-neral, with the paper given to his majesty ; which every body who has seen it (for I have sent it likewise to the

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commissioners of the revenue) do take for granted to be a project of Mr. Sheridan's, with a little help perhaps of sir William Petty's calculation. It seems, it has been an old beaten proposal here; but you shall speedily have the opinion of the king's council upon it. I will say nothing more concerning Mr. Corker, till I have your determinate answer. My lord Roscommon arrived here on saturday night. I will try to make this letter no longer: god almighty keep you and yours. You have here a copy of my letter to my lord president; which will save me the pains of writing much to you, which I should otherwise have done.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, June 22. 1686.

YOUR lordship was pleased to tell me in yours of the 3d instant, that the king was well pleased with what I writ concerning Mr. Ashton; but your lordship made no mention, how far his majesty would extend his mercy towards his widow, and children; for whom, I took the liberty in mine of the 18th past to acquaint your lordship, the judges had interceded. He is dead without issue male; and so the estate (which is not great) goes to his brother by another mother, according to his father's settlement: so that, what would have come to this poor woman, and five children, had not this attainder happened, is not, as I am credibly informed, 40l. per annum. To have that seized, and the little stock upon it carried off, (which I have for the present stopped) would turn these poor

poor people a begging : I would therefore beg to know his majesty's pleasure herein.

Since my last I have received another from your lordship of the 3d instant, acquainting me with his majesty's pleasure, that I should give protection to Mr. David Maxwell ; who is molested for having given information sometime past against sir Robert Colvill. I do beseech your lordship to believe, that neither Mr. Maxwell, nor any one else shall have the least disturbance for doing any thing, which his duty to the government obliged him to ; and I cannot but wonder, why those who think they may be concerned will give themselves the trouble to send into England for recommendations to me, when they know, they may have all the countenance and support they can desire by applying directly to me : but some people think their cases require more than ordinary favour. As for this Mr. Maxwell, I can assure your lordship, he is not in the least molested as yet ; nor will I suffer him to be, while I have the honour of being here, for any thing he has informed, wherein the king is concerned : but, if he should be liable to be prosecuted by other men for debt, (which is too often the case of these informers for words spoken five or more years since) I am sure, his majesty would not have any man exempted from such just prosecutions, for having given informations of words so long since spoken against him.

On Thursday last my lord Tyrconnel went from hence to Wexford to drink the waters. I gave him orders, pursuant to the king's commands, as full as he could desire ; and having done so, and obeyed the king, as I shall always do, I beg your lordship's leave to lament the mortification

tification I am under. Certainly never any chief governour, before me, was directed to devolve all the power granted by his commission to another in command subordinate to him. There is nothing, the king has directed to be done, that I could not have performed as fully to his majesty's satisfaction, even by the judgment of those, whom my lord Tyrconnel has employed ; and whose advice and assistance I would have taken. The same work should have been done much more for his majesty's service ; and, I will have the vanity to say, not near that dissatisfaction given, which, I fear, is occasioned by the unhappiness of his lordship's temper ; and I should not have been exposed to the descants of every man, how little the king thought fit to trust me, and how ill an opinion he has of me, by whom those discourses are made and improved. I will not at present complain ; but, as I have ever obeyed the king, and will do so whilst I live, so it shall not be my fault, if all his commands do not succeed as his majesty himself wishes ; though I cannot be responsible for the actions of others. All necessary orders are given for admitting the roman catholicks into the several corporations throughout the kingdom, and for putting them into other commissions, as his majesty directs ; and nothing is now to do on my part, for which I have had the king's orders. I have taken the liberty to represent in several letters the great damp and uneasiness, which is upon the minds of most of the people here ; insomuch that many do every week go away out of the kingdom ; which will very much prejudice the king's revenue, as it already is too manifest by the deadnes upon the inland trade. It is very worthy his majesty's consideration

ration to quiet men's minds ; and, if I may be allowed to offer one ingredient toward that end with all submission, it should be, that I might be empowered to issue a proclamation, whereby an end might be put to all the prosecutions for words pretended to be spoken so many years since ; which would contribute as much as any one thing towards making men easy at home, and, I speak it knowingly, would be full as grateful to the prosecutors as to the prosecuted. There is one thing more concerning myself, which I will venture to lay before your lordship, depending upon your friendship therein ; which is concerning the king's laying his commands upon me to dispose of offices, which by my patent he has been pleased to trust me to dispose of ; as particularly the two barons of the exchequer. I did obey the king's commands in admitting Mr. baron Rice as soon as I had them, and would not mention any thing thereof to your lordship, till after I had done so ; but, that being over, I hope, hereafter upon any other occasions your lordship will afford me so much of your favour, as to help me to preserve those privileges, which are granted me in my commission ; and the rather, because I would not have the world too apt to believe, that the king is displeased with me : I am sure, if I know my own heart, I had rather die than do any thing, whereby justly to deserve his displeasure. I have but one thing more to add ; and then I shall ease your lordship of this present trouble. My lord Tyrconnel told me, though I had nothing of it from your lordship, (which I should have been very glad to have known the king's mind in) that the king gave colonel Salkield the command of the horse grenadiers as a recompence

pence of his former services, in lieu of his employment of lieutenant colonel, and in order to his disposing of it to his advantage. Though I know, it is against his majesty's resolution of not suffering commands in the army to be sold, yet, considering what has been told me, and that there can be no harm in making the proposition, I am desired by my lord Ikerine, that the king may be acquainted, that his lordship and colonel Salkield are agreed for that command of the grenadiers: but then my lord Ikerine hopes, the king will give him leave to surrender the company, which he now has, to a friend of his; and he desires, it may be to one lieutenant John Roth. If his majesty approve hereof, your lordship will be pleased to let me know it, and to send over the commissions. I am with very great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDRON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, June 26. 1686.

SINCE my last I have had no letters from England; and so I shall have the less to say now. But a letter out of England from sir Mau. Euftace, which came by the last packet, walks about the town, and tells of further great alterations, which are presently to be made here: as, that the privy counsellors are to be put out; that the court of exchequer (baron Rice excepted) is to be totally

totally changed, and even the chancellor of the exchequer is to be put out; that my lord chancellor is to be sent for home; and several other of the judges to be put out. I am promised a sight of his letter. If I have, you shall be sure of a copy of it: if not, you must take the report as I have it. I have not had one word from my lord Tyrconnel, since he left this town: but I hear fine stories of his way of proceeding, of which you shall have a collection by a safe hand, who goes hence the next week. The earls of Clanrickard and Antrim are come to town, and were yesterday sworn of the council. Now the king thinks fit to employ so many roman cathòlics in his service, and considering the qualifications of some of the new counsellors, (if I may venture to say so to you) I could wish, some men of experience in the state and condition of the kingdom, and of eminent merit had been remembered; and such I could have offered, had I been worthy to have been consulted, as once, I confess, I had the vanity to think I should. I would at the present offer two to your consideration, colonel Garret Moore, and captain George Matthews. The first is an honest old cavalier; served the crown in all the late wars, both in England and Ireland, and is a very discreet man: he is of Connaught; and, I think, has only his old estate. The latter you know as well as I, and to whom he is half-brother: his estate is all upon the new interest; and I take him to wish well to the present settlements. If you think it proper to get them made of the council, I would be glad the letters were sent immediately to myself, that they may know, it is by my means. I have given you an account in my letter to the treasury of the soldiers, who are

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to be dismissed out of the guards for selling of drink : for one reason or other here will be turned out of these guards near 500 men ; 350 whereof are in all appearance very able and lusty men, but, it is said, they are too little. Fourscore new men are come today to town to be admitted in the rooms of some of the other ; and I am sure, they are full as little, and look very shabidly : I wish, there may be no stealers amongst them. Pray, remember my lord chancellor; and let him own his additional allowance to you. I have no more to add at present, but my prayers for you, and my sister, and all yours.

To Lord MOUNT ALEXANDER.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, June 26. 1686.

I confess, I was surprised with my lord president's letter of the 3d instant ; which told me, the king had been informed, that Mr. David Maxwell was molested upon the account of having given an information against sir Robert Colvill, and therefore commanded me to take him into my protection : but your lordship's letter of the 12th hath something explained the matter to me ; and I do assure your lordship, I shall be very ready to bestow any church preferment upon any friend of your's, when it is in my power ; but I have hitherto had very few, and those very small benefices to bestow. But indeed Mr. David Maxwell does not do well to pretend to be molested for having informed against sir Robert Colvill, when there is no such thing ; but, when there is, certainly I shall not so much forget my duty, as to suffer him to be prosecuted

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prosecuted upon that account. It may not be amiss upon this occasion to acquaint your lordship, that my lord Tyrconnel seemed to wonder, I sent the king that information against sir Robert Colvill ; and told me, that your lordship had acquainted him therewith, and that he thought it so frivolous, that he would not meddle in it. But, with respect to his lordship, I think, I had not done my duty, if I had concealed it ; though I do as little approve, as any man can do, of informations about words spoken so many years since. I have nothing further to trouble your lordship with at present, but that I am with great truth,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most affectionate and most humble servant,

CLARENDON.

To Mr. Blathwait.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, June 26. 1686.

I AM now to thank you for yours of the 1st and 12th instant, and for the plan of the first encampment : I shall be very glad to receive that of the second, when it is perfect. I suppose, the horse and dragoons appeared on the day appointed, the 22^d instant, except the weather hindered. We have had here terrible great rains all this week. I give you many thanks for the deductions, which are made from the soldiers ; which indeed are very great : but, if the king will not take notice of, and forbid them, he must not wonder, his forces are not so good as they

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might and ought to be. At one time or other the agents will be the ruin of the army here; who, I perceive, are not to be controlled by any but by the colonels, who will support them. I have still some questions to ask, which I would be glad to be well informed of; and I know not of whom so well to enquire as of you. I find, our new officers pretend to be guided by what is done in England; which occasions my asking the more questions. If a trooper be not fit to serve, and is put out, and has a good horse; it is said, that in England the captain (if the new man, who is to come in, have not money) is to pay the man, who goes out, such a price for his horse, as two of the troop shall judge it to be worth: I would be glad to know the truth of this. There is one thing more, which is much disputed here. The regiment of guards ought to have been new cloathed two months since: the cloths were ready; but my lord of Offory sent directions to his major, that they should not be put on, till my lord Tyrconnel arrived. It is now thought fit to put near 500 men out of this regiment: they say, they have paid for their cloths, and pray, that, if they may not have them, they may be repaid the money, which has been deducted for cloths; which, the old officers say, has been the constant practice here, for the captain to pay the men, who go out, for their cloths, and to reimburse himself by deducting from the new men, who come in. The new officers say, the cloths, being paid for out of the money deducted for that use, are the king's; and the soldiers, who go out, ought to have no consideration for them; and yet they own, they will take the same deductions from the new men, from the time they

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they come into service : but this is to be guided by the practice in England, which I would be glad to know, as soon as you can conveniently.

I thank you for the account you have sent me of the alterations in the English army ; which is much plainer than what you sent me formerly. I say no more to the busines of the plantation trades, but only this, that of the ships that went from the several ports in this kingdom, (not being allowed to unlade here) when they had touched in England, and left there the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lib. on tobacco, three of them are gone directly into Holland, thinking to find the better market there ; by which means the king has lost 2d. $\frac{1}{2}$ per lib. which ought to have been paid here : and probably the rest of the ships will do the same. I do not forget to send you an account of the pay of the army here ; which you shall have very exact after this muster, when all the changes will be made. I am,

Sir,

Your very affectionate servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, June 29. 1686.

MAJOR Marks Talbot, and captain Eastland have lately presented a petition to the council here, setting forth the hardship they conceive themselves to be under upon the account of their pay, in regard they are to have none, (by virtue of his majesty's commands signified in his royal letter of the 24th of may) but from the

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the time they enter upon their commands here. That your lordship may the better see their pretensions, I send you their petition. I cannot relieve them without the king's particular orders; and therefore, I am sure, it was improper for them to apply to the board; but, it seems, they were advised to do it: what the king pleaseth to order in it shall be immediately obeyed. Some days since one Mr. Hugh Reily brought me the king's letter for making him master of chancery here in the room of sir Jo. Coghill; who, his majesty is informed, is not fitly qualified for his service. I have presumed to defer executing the king's commands, till I have represented the case to your lordship; which I beseech you to do to the king. I should not have delayed it upon my own account, (though by his majesty's grant those places are in my nomination) if I did not really think it for his majesty's service. This gentleman, sir Jo. Coghill, is come of loyal parents: his father was killed at the head of his company in the service of king Charles I. and he himself has always been loyal, and never in any employment, but in the service of the crown. He is about 44 years of age: he is a very good civilian, inferior to few in England; and at this time he is employed by me for improving the king's revenue of the first fruits, which I am directed by my instructions to do; and in which affair, as in all things relating to the church, he is most knowing. The masters of chancery's places here are very inconsiderable, not being worth above 50l. a year apiece; so that the king can never be well served in those places, but by such who have fortunes of their own: here are but 4 of them, and those

those who now enjoy them are men of great merit and abilities. I am with all respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, July 4. 1686.

TUESDAY, June the 29th. Though you will think by the date of this letter, that I am got into a little retirement, I can only tell you, that it is to be alone for an hour or two in a day; which is always pleasant, but especially in the hot weather: and this place is so near the town, that it is almost as easy for company, as if I were at the castle; which I have hitherto visited once a day since I have lain here, and do intend to do so yet for some time, for reasons you shall shortly know by another conveyance. If I should pretend to tell you all the follies, which are committed by some men, and the attempts they make to provoke me, I should write volumes; but I should (though I say it) make myself a very pattern of patience. Though it be not allowable to brag of one's self, yet you will give me leave to be very proud, that I have so far mastered my natural unfortunate temper, as not to be angry; though the trials I daily receive would perhaps justify another man's being provoked: but, as I do give god thanks for having shewed no passion hitherto, so I doubt not by his blessing to go through with the resolution.

resolution I have firmly taken of not suffering myself to be provoked, till it be directly declared, that a man of my principles is not longer fit to be in the government; which (if some men are to be believed) may ere long fall out to be the case. When that is, I shall not murmur; but, as long as I live, pray god bless the king. He may do what he pleaseth, but I will never make myself incapable of doing good; nor will I do what those, who wish no good either to the publick or myself, would have me do on purpose to be rid of me. It may not be amiss however to tell you some stories, not only for your entertainment, but to enable you to justify me, if you hear some things spoken of. The last week a soldier in the regiment of guards was brought before a council of war for having spoken disrespectful words against my lord Tyrconnel; which, just as execution was to be done, lieutenant colonel Dorington gave me a short account of: and truly, by what he said, one would have thought, that the fellow was only to be disgraced and cashiered in the head of his company; but I would not concern myself at all in it, because it was the case of my lord Tyrconnel. But, when the execution was over, and that I had heard the manner of it, (for the fellow had run the gantlet quite through the whole regiment, and was beaten with that severity, that he fell down twice by the way, and was afterwards committed to prison to the marshal) the next day after this, when Dorington came to me for orders, I told him, without entering into the particulars of the fellow's punishment, that it was a very good thing to keep good discipline in the regiment, and to punish men for any affronts done to superiour officers; but that he must look

look to observe, in all such cases, the rules prescribed in the articles of war ; which, I doubted, had not been done in the late case before him, and I was pretty perfect in them ; that I had been told, the judge advocate was not present at the trial of this fellow, and that no examinations had been taken upon oath, which was always practised both in England and here, when any severe corporal punishment was inflicted in time of peace ; and that, after the trial, the practice here had always been for the judge advocate to attend the chief governour, and give him an account of the proceedings, it being fit, he should know every thing. I told him, that, as it was of absolute necessity to observe good discipline in the army, so I did expect to be made acquainted with every thing. He pretended to excuse himself by saying, he did not know the customs of this place. I told him, I was not willing to believe, he intended any thing amiss, but he would do well to enquire into the customs of this place ; and, as to what related to the military affairs, he would find them the same as in England, and that what I expected was done to every general officer in England, when he was upon the place. On midsummer eve (which was 2 days after this conversation) I appointed the regiment of guards to be drawn out, and to be mustered ; which, I am sure, was not known, till I came into the field. After I had seen the men exercise, (which, the lieutenant colonel owned, they are as ready in, as men could be) I ordered them to be drawn into ranks, that I might see the men distinctly, who were marked to be put out, and who to be kept in ; and to the view, I cannot but say, there are as proper men put out, and as seemingly lusty,

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as those who are taken in : but I took no notice of that. As I was going out of the field, lieutenant colonel Dorington desired my leave to go to a fair about a dozen miles off to see to pick up some recruits for the regiment, and to carry a serjeant with him : I told him, with all my heart. On friday I was told by several people, that the day before (midsummer-day) Dorington had been at St. John's Well, and beat up his drums for recruits : now St. John's Well is a place of devotion, to which the roman catholicks go on pilgrimage at that season. I confess, I did not like this ; and was told by several roman catholicks, that this way of proceeding was not the best way of doing the king's busineſs, and would prejudice the country. The next day being saturday, when Dorington came to me, I told him, he had not done well in telling me he was going to a fair, when he knew there was none ; that, if he had named me the place, (which he said he had forgot, when I asked him) I would have convinced him of the indiscretion of going thither in that manner. He said, indeed he had been told of it since his return by very good people, but did not apprehend what he now found. I told him, if he would consider and advise, he might do the same thing he designed, and nobody dissatisfied : besides I told him, the beating of drums for men without order from the government was penal, and no where allowed ; and, had it been another man, I should have taken another course with him. He made a fumbling excuse to me, saying, he was sorry for it, but that he did not know the customs of the place. I told him, I was very well satisfied, he had no ill intent upon any account ; and therefore I hoped, he would be more careful

careful for the future, and confer more freely with me. In truth all men; who have any consideration and care of the king's service, are extremely troubled at the method which is taken in doing of things. To turn out in one day 400 men of the regiment of guards, 300 of whom have no visible fault, and many of them cheerfully went the last year, first into the north, and afterwards into England, does put apprehensions into men's heads, which they would have otherwise no cause for; and which nothing, but finding themselves deceived by time, can allay: and putting in none but natives in their rooms, who really to the eye, as to stature and ability, make worse figures than those are put out, confirms their jealous apprehensions. At the same time the same thing is doing in the rest of the troops throughout the kingdom. To give you one instance only, Mr. Nich. Darcy, who has the company late captain Motloe's, called his company together, and asked them, if they went to mass; to which 40 of them said, no: whereupon he immediately dismissed them, and said, he had kept as many above a week at his own house upon his own charge, who the next morning were all admitted. To shew his little skill in soldiery (for Mr. Darcy was never in any service before) he would not stay 2 days, till the commissary came down; and so dismissed the men without certificates of what pay was due to them: a method, that will occasion great trouble and perplexities; which might have been avoided by regularity. Perhaps one reason thereof is to disturb me; but nothing shall do that by the grace of god. These 40 men are all come to Dublin: they are as proper lusty fellows, as you shall see. Colonel Billingsley

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(who says, his new company is a very ill one) has a great mind to entertain them ; but I bid him think well of it, for it may breed ill blood for him to take them, being lieutenant colonel of Russell's regiment, in which Darcy is a captain : but indeed it is pity, such men, as many of these disbanded men are, should not be in the king's service.

Wednesday the 30th. This morning I went to Dublin, and, after I had done the busineſſ I had appointed, I dined at my lord chancellor's, having before promised my lords Clanrickard, and Lymericke to meet them there. I am ſure, it is best in all respects to live equally civil and kind to all men in their ſtations ; and besides the firſt is a perfect worthy man. After dinner we went to council together ; where we had 2 cauſes : the one was upon a complaint of the commissioners of the revenue, that a justice of the peace in the county of Meath had diſcou-tenanced a collector of the excife in the execution of his office. Upon a full hearing it was clearly proved, by the testimony of Irish as well as Englifh, that the collector had a very good repute, and that the justice had been much to blame. When the board came to deliberate what to do, this is remarkable, that ſeveral of our new counſellors (though the justice was an Englifhman and a protestant) were for putting up the buſineſſ ; and parti-cularly the 3 new judges ſaid, the gentleman would be more careful for the future, &c. I did not think fit to put it to the vote, but ſaid, (as I may do by authority) that all men in employmenſt were obliged to be aiding and affiſting to the king's officers in the execution of their duty, and not to diſcouraſe them ; and therefore I would do,

do, what I knew would be done in England in this case; and so directed my lord chancellor to put the justice out of commission: and, being reputed a man of good principles, upon due submission and application he might easily be restored again; by which he would have learnt to do his duty better hereafter. I am sure, I am in the right in what I have done; for, if the king's officers have not all possible support from the government, you will quickly find it in the revenue. The other cause was thus. Some months since a ship, arrived at Lymerick, entered her lading of walnuts, salt, &c. to the value of about 300l. While the king's waiter was on board, the master of the ship offers him 2 guineas to let him carry 2 pieces of silk on shore: the waiter would not be bribed, and got more company to him; and then he searched every corner. In the hogshead of walnuts, and buried in the salt, they found silk, and other fine goods to the value of 500l, which were not entered. The king's officers seized these goods, and according to the law they were forfeited, and so condemned. The merchants, one Macnamara and partners, concerned appealed to the council from this judgment, as by law they may do. This matter, upon the appeal, now came to be heard. It was fully proved, that the goods were, as I have said, concealed, and that they were intended to be stolen on shore: it was likewise proved, that there had been no duties paid to the king for any fine goods in that port, since his late majesty's restoration; and yet there were all sorts of fine goods to be bought in the shops at Lymericke: so that there had been no honest dealing there. Yet when we came to deliberate, though the mischievous consequences to

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to the king's revenue were plainly manifested, and though almost every one of the board declared, they were satisfied that the design was to defraud the king of his duty; notwithstanding, several of the new counsellors, and the 3 judges likewise said, they thought the words of the law were not so clear as to make such an intention of cheating an absolute forfeiture: upon which I declared again, that I was not satisfied by what I had heard to reverse the judgment, and that I thought, to do it would be of pernicious consequence to the king's revenue. Then it was said, it was a busines of very great importance, and deserved to be well considered; and then it was earnestly pressed to put off the determination for a week. I said, (and truly it was for the sakes of them who moved it) that I would never be so unreasonable, as to refuse time for consideration; but, if there were not such offers then made, as would secure the king's duties for the future, the judgment should be affirmed. All the merchants in town were present; who, no doubt, have their eyes upon the success of this cause, and will accordingly be more or less able to cheat. These 2 hearings lasted till 8 at night; and being wearied with the crowd I came to my retreat, which is very refreshing. And having given you this imperfect account, upon which I leave you to make your own observations, (for I will not make mine yet) it is time to go to rest; for I have appointed other busines tomorrow: but first I must tell you, this evening are come in 5 packets from England; among which I have received yours of the 15th, 19th, and 24th past, which I will answer in order before I close this. It is now bed time.

Thursday,

Thursday, July the 1st. This morning major general Macarty arrived. He came immediately to me, and so much other company of the new officers, who are some come over, and some come out of the country, that I have not had time to go to Dublin today; which is the first day I have omitted in 10 days I have been here. Macarty is extremely civil to me, and, I am sure, he will find me so to him: I am very glad he is here. I have been informed, that some of the new recruits are affronted by the boys of the town; which I do not like: the truth is, they are strange wretches, and cannot speak, many of them, one word of English; which does expose them, as circumstances are; and matters must be discreetly handled. I sent to my lord mayor, that I did expect, he should keep the town in order, and not suffer any rudeness to be committed. I had some of the judges, who begin their circuits tomorrow, with me to receive instructions. So that you see, nobody is idle; at least, that I do omit nothing.

Friday, the 2d. In the morning I went to Dublin; where the first news I heard was, that last night there happened a quarrel in the streets between a cornet of my lord Kinsale's and a grenadier: the latter was wounded terribly in two places in the body; but I found no examinations taken, nor any thing done in it; only 2 apprentices were taken and kept neck and heels upon the guard, whom I presently ordered to be put into the hands of the civil magistrate; who committed them to Newgate, where they now are. The man who was wounded is like to do well: however I have directed examinations to be taken of the quarrel; and whoever appears faulty shall

shall be punished. I dined at my lord Limericke's; which I had promised to do the first council day: my lord chancellor was there. So that you see, we live very friendly together; and every body will do so, if somebody does not inflame the world. In the afternoon we went to council; where Macarty was sworn: there was another cause heard; but it was not of any thing needful to inform you.

Saturday, the 3d. In the morning I went again to Dublin, and despatched several businesses with some of the judges in order to their circuits, and with my lord mayor to preserve the peace of the city; which I will be answerable to keep quiet, though there are means used on both sides to disturb it; the soldiers, who are put out, saying, they will cuff their successors, and then they will go and serve the king in England: and truly they do rap them soundly at fifty cuffs, for which they are laid by the heels upon complaint; but the putting one or two into Newgate will teach the rest. The natives are not behind hand in insolencies: I mean, the new men. I never knew people more disposed to be quiet, and to be obedient to their superiors, than the citizens of this town. It is now time, being come back from Dublin, to think of your letters: and now to yours of the 10th past. I give you many thanks for the hints you gave me, which I will be sure to observe in my conduct in the great affair; which is a great one indeed, if luckily managed. Some account of the progress I have already made you shall have in my tuesday's letter. I have received my lord president's letter with the king's commands; a copy whereof you shall have here, if I have time to copy it; for

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for I think fit to do it myself, because of the secret. To your's of the 19th past I say nothing at present, but leave that and your other to the next packet, being in truth very weary, and am called to church: it is not long to tuesday. God keep you, and my sister, and all yours.

Dublin Castle, July 4. sunday morning.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, July 6. 1686.

I was at Dublin both yesterday and today, and am returned hither at noon to shut myself for writing my letters. In the first place I am now to answer your's of the 19th past; to which there is not much occasion of replying. I have received several letters from you from the treasury chamber; to all which I will return answers the same way. As to what you say to me in this, which I am now answering, of Mr. Strong's proposal for a further salary to the gaugers, &c. he might have told you, that he had mentioned it to me, and that we were upon the consideration of it, and had resolved it in some cases, even before he went away; but it shall be done, wherever it is necessary: though it will encourage the men to use more diligence, I doubt, it will contribute little towards raising the excise, as the present circumstances are. As for Mr. Pilkington, I will observe your directions, and am very glad, I have liberty to join another with him; for such a fellow, a disturber of mankind, ought to be well watched. But I will make the right use of him, and quickly give you an account of the wheat from the chaff:

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but it is a wonderful thing, how men do forget themselves in going between England and Ireland. Sure Mr. Strong thinks, I forget as well as he what he told me of the reasons, why the commissioners dismissed him ; one of which was for downright knavery, and, that he never made any discovery of the composition rents to them ; which have ever been known. But of these things, and why he was put out of the auditor's office, you shall be at large informed in my letter to the treasury ; but you may be sure, he shall not want all fitting encouragement from me.

I come now to your's of the 24th past ; and, as to the packet you mis, marked 40, it is a pretty odd thing. At the same time I received your's, which I am now answering, the postmaster here (whom I take to be an honest man) comes to me, and tells me, that by some negligence of a postmaster at Holyhead, or Chester, the male, which carried the letters of the 15th (wherein was mine N° 40.) was brought back again hither. I am satisfied, it had never been opened : so that whatever letters you saw of a fresher date must have gone hence by an express ; and I have been told, that in that dogger my lord Tyrconnel sent one over. Now, if that person could contrive to get that male out of the way, that he might get first to London, and receive answers to his letters, before that packet of the 15th arrived, it was a pretty artifice ; and methinks it might be discovered. If Mr. From do his part, and discharge some of the postmasters, truth will out ; for, that it should be purely an innocent mistake, I can only say, it was what never happened before. As to my accounts with the queen dowager, I have some-time

time since sent over all the particular proofs I have; which in equity, I am sure, ought to be allowed as good vouchers: and I doubt not, but they are by this time in the auditor's hands, where they ought to be.

Just now came in another packet from England; which brought me yours of the 29th past. I need say no more of my letter that is missing, than I have done above: I doubt not, it is in your hands before this. You have done all that is possible (for which I can but return you my thanks) in giving my letters to my sister, that they may be read at convenient times to the queen; and you may do so with the rest, if you find encouragement. Believe me upon my word, whatever mortifications I have, they do not appear to any creature living, no not so much as by my looks; which, I may say, is wondered at by some who can see as far into a millstone as others; and who are pretty inquisitive into transactions, and can make good observations. To shew you, that I will not desert myself, I have resolved to go to Kilkenny on monday so see my lord Ardglass's regiment, which is to rendezvous there on tuesday; and on the friday following the duke of Ormond's is to be at the same place; from whence they are to march into Ulster, as the first are into Munster. I shall then have seen all the horse of this army; and I will likewise see some of the foot, as they are upon their march in shifting their quarters. And this I do to shew, that I do concern myself in the army, and in their affairs, notwithstanding the discourses which some men are pleased to give out. I have received from Mr. Gwyne the draught of the king's letter for the payment of the army here, as it is in England; and I will in a very little time return it

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to you with the blanks filled up : but I must well consider of it ; for though it be an excellent method, yet I doubt, whether our cash will hold out to pay such a sum weekly, as this subsistence money will amount unto. I have been thinking of it ever since I received your first intimation, and some difficulties do appear, but I hope, we shall remove them. If you please, say nothing of this, till I give you a direct answer ; which shall be with all speed. You will find by that enclosed copy, that I have written at large to my lord president, and with freedom, as to the matters of fact, and reports here. All that I have said of either can be proved ; and, if I do not make these representations, (whilst it is not yet too late) I should think myself inexcusable : and what can I do else ? I hope still, I have kept myself within the bounds of modesty and decency in my expressions ; and that I have shewed, (if my letter be exposed to candid readers) that I am not partial, or that I think the king's employing popish officers (as such) must ruin all ; and yet I may say to you, the having none of the soldiers in the army but natives, will seem to reasonable men (all circumstances considered) a strange policy. You see, I have said nothing to my lord president of what progress I have made in the great affair, because I think best to come first to some resolution, and to advise with more people, than I have yet had opportunity in point of time to do. But I may tell you, that I have advised with my lord chief justice Keating, who has this day begun his circuit. He shakes his head, and says, he does not believe, by what he sees done throughout the kingdom, that there is any intention of settling men's minds. I think, says he, it is demonstrable,

demonstrable, that a commission with a promise or declaration therein, that the proceedings upon it shall be confirmed by parliament, will both settle men's minds, and raise money considerably ; and that the work of a parliament will then be easy, and no disputes will arise about provisos, &c : whereas it is plain, says he, that a parliament in the first place must (till the acts are past) encrease the apprehensions people are now under ; and how long acts will be in preparing here, and in England (when things are thought to be loose, as now they are) nobody, says he, who knows any thing of affairs, can be ignorant : and all that time the kingdom will be at a gaze upon each other, and nobody will fall to their work. I would be glad, said he, to see the reasons I have given in this point in my paper answered by men, who desire the settlement of this kingdom : but, my lord, continued he, it is plain to me, these furious men, who you see are now in credit, do resolve to make what haste they can to get all the army to consist of none but natives. They will get all the natives to be justices of the peace, and likewise sheriffs, and magistrates of towns ; which may be effected toward christmas : and then, said he, I know, they design to have a parliament ; and by a majority, which they have now at the council board, they will make what they please of the settlement ; which yet will take up time afterwards, for the king will have men heard, who are vested in their estates by law upon valuable considerations. And all this while a kingdom, and industrious people will be in confusion and distraction, not knowing, whether what they have will be their own : and at last, when they have a parliament of my countrymen,

men, the king will see what work they will make. I have communicated with my lord chancellor; and we both intended to discourse with the three new judges, before they go their circuits; but I may venture to say between you and me, that I know their minds already: they would have nothing done before a parliament; that is, they would have every thing as loose as it is, when a parliament meets; and yet they do not think the time yet proper for a parliament, and that a parliament will be a great while in composing matters; that is, that bills for a parliament will be a very great while in preparing. But enough of this for the present. I send you here enclosed the copy of a letter from the collector of Wexford to the commissioners of the revenue; by which you may see the conversation of my lord Tyrconnel, and that he will have his finger every where. I have received the king's letter for making Mr. Trant a baronet; which is despatching: he is expected speedily here. My lord Tyrconnel told the lord chancellor, that Trant was coming over, and he should convert him. The chancellor answered, I am very glad, I shall see my old client Trant; but, I believe, I shall convince him instead of his converting me. This morning, when I was at Dublin, a very worthy person and man of quality told me, my lord chancellor being present, that Mr. Chetwood, my lord Dartmouth's chaplain, had written to his brother here, that my lord Tyrconnel would get me recalled within 6 months; and therefore he advised his brother to leave this kingdom. This is nothing; but it is not amiss to tell you 40 stories, as they occur to me. God keep you, and all yours, and my sister.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, July 6. 1686.

THE last week we had 6 packets from England ; among which I had 2 from your lordship, of the 14th and 15th of the last month. To the first I can make no return at present, but that I will strictly and carefully observe the king's commands, and will advise with the honestest and ablest persons of the several interests upon the question your lordship directs, and that with all possible speed ; for the future prosperity of this country, and the settling his majesty's interest here depends upon the speedy composing of men's minds, and the freeing them of the apprehensions they are under, that they shall lose their estates of which they are possessed by law, and upon which they have laid out so much expense and labour. I shall only at present observe to your lordship, that my lord chief justice Keating in his paper states and argues the question — whether a parliament, or commission first ? and gives a positive opinion in the point ; which I have some reason to believe was founded upon mature advice, as well as upon his own experience and observations : but I will advise again with him, and others with all possible secrecy, and will transmit to your lordship both the opinions, and the authors of them : your lordship may be sure, I will not leave my lord Tyrconnel out of the consultation.

I have acquainted my lord Granard, and Mr. Nangle with what your lordship says ; and they are both very sensible of his majesty's bounty to them. The latter follows

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lows his businesse close, which is very advantageous to him: the first resolves very speedily for England. I have seen all the alterations made in the commissions, which you directed, and have received the commissions for sir Charles Feilding, and the 2 lieutenants of the independent troop of grenadiers; which are given out. The army are now all mustered in their old quarters, and are marching with all speed to their new; that is, to such places as are convenient for them to be in in the summer time in order to be drawn together for exercise: but in the winter they must be dispersed into quarters at a further distance, for the conveniency of the men, as well as of the country. My lord Tyrconnel will be this night at Kilkenny; where the earl of Ardglass's regiment will rendezvous on this day sennight, and the duke of Ormond's at the end of that week; and where I intend to be to see them, and then I shall have seen all the horse of this army myself. The officers proceed as fast as they can in putting what men they do not like out of their companies, and taking such as they please; so that, I doubt not, the whole army will be composed within a month, or very little more, as his majesty would have it. There are 400 men put out of the guards, and their places supplied with natives; which hath something contributed to the jealousies people are too much inclined to have: but those jealousies will wear off, when they see by a little time they are groundless. The turning out so many men in an instant, taking in none but natives in their rooms, and the very indiscreet carriage of some of the new officers, in declaring they will entertain no English, nor any protestants, does frighten people; and nothing but a little

tle time can resettle their minds. When I discourse with persons, who ought to be wiser than to be alarmed with apprehensions, (for I think it my duty to use all endeavours, that men may be satisfied with what the king thinks fit to have done) they tell me, they are not frightened; for they firmly believe, the king will not suffer the acts of settlement to be shaken: but they tell me, they cannot bring their neighbours in their countries to believe them. They say, they have still in their memories the cruelties they suffered in the late rebellion from the natives, when they lived with all loving friendliness together; and how, say they, can we help being frightened, when we see the sons of those very men, who were most active in the rebellion, now in command? and then they proceed to reckon them up. And the truth is, some of these officers are so very indiscreet as to say, now they have got power, when they have modelled their companies to their minds, they will quickly get their lands again; which, you will believe, does not lessen the frights of the poor people. All this would be very easily remedied, and the king have all done he has a mind to, if men would be discreet in their stations, as several are; amongst whom ought to be remembered sir Jo. Fitz-Gerald, both the Dempseys, colonel Sheldon, Lacy, and many more, who have moulded their troops, and companies to their minds, without the least dissatisfaction to any one. They are beloved in their quarters; they cherish, and comfort the people, and punish those who talk impertinently. But there are likewise several, of whom I cannot give so good characters; and those, who ought to reprove them for indiscretion, will only say, alas! poor

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man, he has lost his estate, you must give him leave to talk. I have taken the liberty to entertain your lordship with these stories, that you may see something of the temper of persons as well as things, and to shew you, that it is not so much the king's employing roman catholicks in his army, which disquiets men, as that there are such, from whom by their own words and actions they fear to be oppressed instead of being protected. Believe it, my lord, when it is known, what the king would have, and which with submission (in some cases) ought to be known but to a few, it may be easily done to general satisfaction; for I must needs say, never were people in the world more disposed to obedience and to betake themselves to their industry, than the generality of people here, if they are let alone. I am sure, I will never be wanting in my duty to obey what the king commands; and, if it be not done as it ought to be, it shall be known, where the fault is. When the king knows what is done and said here, his majesty best knows, what is reasonable to direct thereupon. Though this letter is grown to a great length already, yet I must not conclude it without giving your lordship an account of the execution of the rest of the king's commands. I have sent letters to all the corporations to give their freedoms to all the roman catholicks, as to his majesty's other subjects, without tendering them the oath of supremacy, and for presenting to me such as shall be chosen into offices, that I may dispense with their taking the said oath according to the rules. I have already received returns from about 20. of the corporations, and every day I receive from one or other, all full of duty and obedience; some saying, they have obeyed, and tell

tell me, what number of roman catholicks they have admitted ; others saying, they have appointed such and such days for their publick assemblies, that those, who would be admitted, may have notice : so that the king may be assured, that particular throughout will be settled as he has commanded. In some places, where they have two bailiffs, (which are there the chief magistrates) they have without any contest chosen one of each religion ; and, if due care be taken, there is no doubt, they will live very well together.

As soon as I had the king's letter permitting my lords Gormanstowne and Ikerine to reverse the outlawries of their ancestors, I acquainted my lord chancellor, and Mr. attorney therewith : but the noise of this matter was come before the letter ; for sometime before caveats were entered against the granting any such writs of reversal by 3 persons, who, by virtue of the acts of settlement, are in possession of some lands, the ancient propriety of those lords. I referred the matter to Mr. attorney, and Mr. solicitor ; (for I could do no less) requiring them to call to their assistance the rest of the king's learned council, several of whom are roman catholicks, and to report their opinions to me : which they have done, and I herewith transmift their report to your lordship ; which I beseech you to lay before his majesty. It is a thing of very great consequence, and deserves the most serious consideration ; which, I am sure, it will have. I will here end your lordship's present trouble, begging the continuance of your favour to,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

Y y 2 CLARENCEON. C. P. S.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Chapel Izod, July 11. 1686.

TO M O R R O W, god willing, I go to Kilkenny ; from whence, or at my return, which will be tomorrow sennight at furthest, your lordship shall have an account of things there. I write this to be presented to your lordship by Mr. Keightley, whose affairs call him into England : he has the honour not to be altogether unknown to your lordship. He hath been some months in the king's busines ; by which means, and by his long living in this kingdom he has had the opportunity of informing himself in many particulars, and can answer any questions your lordship shall think fit to ask him : I beg leave therefore to recommend him to your favour and protection.

Having had no letters of late from your lordship, I shall have the less to trouble you with at present; but that you may know, that the king's commands with reference to the corporations are executing every where, as, I can assure your lordship, they are with great cheerfulness, of which I have had returns from most places, I think fit to send you here enclosed the copy of a letter I received from Cork since my last to your lordship; whereby you will find, they desire to be satisfied in some questions: but you will be pleased to observe, that they had already paid so far obedience to the king's commands, as to admit 40 roman catholicks to be freemen; and then they adjourned their further proceedings, till they had an answer to their questions; which I have given thus —

That, as to the 2 oaths, they should administer only the short oath, which is the oath of fidelity taken by the roman catholick judges here; the other oath being the oath of allegiance taken in England, which is not enacted here: that all roman catholicks, who have pretensions to their freedoms from their ancestors, shall be admitted thereunto, though they live out of the city in the countries, and though they drive no trade at all: but, as for those who reside and trade in Kinsale, Youghall, and Lymricke, and who are by the king's commands made free of those corporations, that they should not make those men free of Cork, no more than those towns would admit the men of Cork to be freemen with them. As for the tradesmen of mean callings, as butchers, bakers, &c. I have ordered them to be made free only of their several companies, as it is in other places; which will intitle them to all the advantages other men in their circumstances are capable of. This answver being gone, I am confident, all things will be done there to the king's mind, as likewise in all other places.

I have only this one thing more to trouble your lordship with at present, concerning colonel Ant. Hamilton; that your lordship would be pleased to be a means to get him a commission to command as colonel, though he is but lieutenant colonel to sir Thomas Newcomen, in regard of the commands he has had abroad: and I am told, it is often done in France; which makes me hope, it will not be counted an unreasonable request. I would likewise humbly recommend it to your lordship, that the king would be pleased to make colonel Anthony Hamil-

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ton a privy counsellor here. I beg your lordship's pardon for this presumption, and am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Kilkenny, July 14. 1686.

MY last told you, that I intended to be here this week to see the two regiments of horse, which were appointed to rendezvous here. And, to give you some account of my journey, let me tell you, that I left Dublin on monday morning, and lay that night at Carloe; which is 32 miles Irish. All the way I went, I was met by the sheriffs, and sovereigns of the little towns I past through with all the respects due and usual. Two miles before I came to Carloe I was met by the bishop of Locklin and Fernes (one Dr. Marsh, formerly a chaplain of my father's) with many of his clergy, it being within his diocese. Carloe is a very pretty situated town: it belongs to the earl of Thoumond; who has an old ruined castle there pleasantly placed upon the river side. The town seems to be pretty well inhabited: but there are several inns stand empty; which, I was told, were deserted within these 12 months. On tuesday I went from Carloe to this place (20 Irish miles); where I arrived about 6 in the evening; and upon the road was met in like manner by the sheriff, &c. and 4 miles from the city by the bishop

bishop and his clergy. About 2 miles from hence the troops, which were here in order to the rendezvous, were drawn up in a line, my lord Tyrconnel, major general Macarty, and colonel Hamilton in the head of them. I entertain you with these trifles of my reception every where, (and it was as it ought to be in this city) that you may see, all due honours were paid to my character. I had very little discourse this evening, more than upon the ordinary matters of the troops, and ordering the review tomorrow morning : what shall pass during my stay here you shall have an exact account of, as you have hitherto had. The particular occasion of this letter is to accompany Mr. Keightley, and to tell you, why he goes into England. His pretence is about his own affairs ; and he has real business of his own there : but in truth, though I have not owned it to any creature, but now to you, I have desired him to make the journey ; for though I do write very fully and largely to you, yet it might be of use, I think, (at least it can do no harm) if somebody were there, of whom questions might be asked, either upon what I write, or upon what is said or written by others relating to the affairs of this country. And who shall this somebody be ? Should I send an Englishman of the country, or an Irishman, though they might be both very honest, yet I fear, they might be suspected to be partial to their several interests : I have therefore pitched upon this gentleman as a man, who has no real interest here, and who will inform you of the true matter of fact, and of the truth of what is said by every body. His integrity, and real concern for you and me is not to be questioned in the least for many reasons, which cannot
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but be obvious to you. He is a man of very good sense, and of an excellent understanding : he has as general a character of a man of worth and sincerity amongst all sorts of people, as I have known ; and his abode in the kingdom has been so long, and his conversation so general, (for he has been in most parts of the kingdom) that he has been enabled to make many useful observations, and is fully qualified to answer any questions, that shall be asked him. I have therefore thought fit to send him over throughly instructed to give you an account of every thing, and to take your directions, how to behave himself towards others, and how far to discourse with the king, and how far with my lord president, &c. I am sure, he will be guided by you in every thing ; and I beg you to give credit to what he tells you. If we are not condemned to be very unfortunate, the representations he can make may by your conduct do good : however they can do no harm. If they do no good, then I should be glad, he were here again within a month, or thereabouts.

I must not end this without saying something to you of my sister. I have taken her into my house, as long as I am at Chapel Izod ; (at the castle of Dublin I have no conveniency for her) but god knows, I neither have, nor expect to have much comfort from her : but no trouble she gives my mind (which I am such a fool, as I know not how to help, considering who she is) is to be imputed to her husband ; with whom, as to all things relating to her, as well as in other matters, and even in the main point religion, I have reason to be well satisfied. I can add no more at present, being just going into the field to review

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review the troops. You may expect my next to be a longer, and to be entertainment, which may probably make you laugh, though it be not pleasant. Mortifications every man must meet with in this world: upon my word I do not want mine. God grant, I may bear them, as I ought to do, and not prejudice the high character I bear; which is really a hard and difficult task. God almighty support me; and, I pray, believe, that I have courage to think, I shall not have cause to be ashamed. God preserve and bless you and all yours.

Wednesday morning.

To the QUEEN.

Madam,

Kilkenny, July 14. 1686.

I AM perfectly ashamed to give your majesty the trouble of my letters, when I have nothing to entertain you with ; and yet I must do it sometimes to present you with my most obedient duty, and to beg, that I may not be cast out of your protection, by which, as I have been raised, I desire to live. I will never trouble your majesty with complaints ; and yet it is necessary (for me at least) in order to my support, and for the better enabling me to serve the king, that your majesty should know some of my mortifications ; which I have left to my brother and sister Rochester to acquaint you with, when it will be the least inconvenient to you, or else to let it alone. I desire nothing in this world, but to serve the king in whatever station he puts me ; and, as I would give any testimony of it, that is in my power, even with the loss of my life,

so, if I know my own heart, I had rather die than displease either of your majesties: and I flatter myself, that your majesty does believe me; with which I comfort myself extremely. I beg leave, madam, to assure you, that there is not one command I have received from the king, which I have not obeyed with all possible expedition and zeal; and, as there is nothing which the king would have done here, but may be compassed with great ease, if those, who are to do it, have a mind to it; so I hope, your majesty will pardon me, if I presume to say, that, if the king had so thought fit, I could have done what his majesty has now directed, even the same things, to much greater satisfaction than has happened. But I will always obey the king, and, with your majesty's permission, make my moan to you afterwards, with this further assurance, that I will never desire any thing of the king, but what will be for his service to trust me in, whilst I have the honour to serve him in this great station. But, as long as I have your majesty's protection, I shall live with cheerfulness; and I humbly beseech you, let me not want that, whilst I am, which I will be as long as I have life,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,
CLARENDON.

To the King.

Sir,

Kilkenny, July 14. 1686.

I HAVE omitted for some time giving your majesty the trouble of my letters, that I might at the same time give you some account of the execution of your commands, which I received by my lord Tyrconnel. I doubt not, but my lord president some time since acquainted your majesty, that I did immediately obey all that you commanded in giving my lord Tyrconnel full power to put out, and put in what soldiers and non-commissioned officers of the army he thought fit; of all which, and the methods by which the army has been purged, I have given so large an account (as I shall always do) to my lord president, with my humble thoughts thereupon, that I need not trouble your majesty therewith. A very exact account of all the alterations in the army shall be laid before your majesty, as soon as the rolls of the last muster are made up. Your majesty's other commands relating to the corporations are all executing by me, and obeyed already in many places: and I dare assure your majesty, that within very few weeks they shall be performed throughout; that is, as soon as it is possible for returns (in point of time) to be made. I beseech your majesty to believe, that your commands shall meet with no hesitation from me; and, if they are not executed with that success and easiness, as they ought to be, your majesty shall know, whence the difficulties proceed; which, I will presume to say, would not be hard to prevent. I have taken the liberty to send this by Mr. Keightley,

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whose private affairs call him into England ; and therefore I have given him leave to be absent for a few weeks. Since he has had the honour to be in your majesty's service, he hath applied himself with great diligence to understand every thing of your concerns here, particularly relating to your revenue, his immediate station requiring him to sit in your court of exchequer : so that he is very well able to inform your majesty of any thing you shall require of him ; and I am confident, he will do it with all integrity imaginable. God preserve your majesty many years, is the constant prayer of,

Sir,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,
CLARENDON.

To the Lord Treasurer.

Dublin Castle, July 20. 1686.

I RETURNED from Kilkenny on saturday, two or three days sooner than I intended ; the reason whereof you will find in my letter to my lord president, as you will the substance of our proceedings at Kilkenny ; which, I hope, will make my excuse for not sending you the account, I promised in my last by way of diary. It may seem vain, that I should think my presence here, or any where else, should allay the apprehensions men are possessed with, but it is really true ; and my qualifying the declaration my lord Tyrconnel made, that none but roman catholicks were to be admitted into the present vacancies,

cancies; does in some measure prevail upon some men to think again, before they leave the kingdom: though, with all my skill, many very wealthy men are gone already from Cork, and out of the north; and more will go, if some cordial be not administered before they wind up their bottoms, which they are doing with all imaginable diligence: and this late declaration will not give much invitation to stay. I have given my lord president so particular a narrative, (and every syllable of it is true) because I thought it my duty to speak a little more plainly, than I have done; though, I think, I have not hitherto been mealy mouthed: as to the success, god's will be done.

I have lately had another letter from an unknown hand; a copy whereof I have herewith sent you: I have likewise sent it to my lord president. I have told him my true sense of it: however I thought it not amiss to send it to him. I have likewise sent my lord president the copy of a letter I had from the city of Cork, as I have done to you too. Methinks, the questions they desire to be satisfied in are reasonable; and yet they have at the same time shewed a readiness to obey the king. You will find by what I have written to my lord president the answer I have given; and the town has proceeded according to those directions: and I am sure, every thing in that whole matter will be, as the king would have it. But some men are angry, that every catholick in Ireland, as being so, without any other reason, is not in office in every corporation in Ireland; which is more than was before the rebellion, or than is even consistent with the welfare of any corporation, every one of which must be governed by

by particular rules, that the whole may thrive. My lord Tyrconnel came to town yesterday to see the regiment of guards, since their new recruits. He came from his own house, and called at Chapel Izod in his way in the morning; but, I being first come to town, where I staid the whole day, having appointed much business because of my absence the last week, he came to me in the evening. We had very little discourse, it being pretty late; but he said, he would be in town again tomorrow at council. I told him, that it was necessary, he, and I, and my lord chancellor should discourse a little together upon some commands, I lately had from the king; which, he says, shall be tomorrow: and then you shall know his opinion with reference to a parliament, and the commission of grace. I have no more to add at present, but my prayers for you, and all yours. We have just now received 3 packets from England, amongst which I have your's of the 10th instant; which I will answer by the next. You will herewith receive Mr. Price's abstracts for the 2 last weeks.

Tuesday 8 at night. I am going to Chapel Izod till tomorrow morning.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, July 20. 1686.

I TOLD your lordship in my last, that I intended to go the next day to Kilkenny; which I did, and arrived there on tuesday; where I found my lord Tyrconnel, major general Macarty, and colonel Richard Hamilton. On wednesday

wednesday I saw the duke of Ormond's regiment, and seven troops of the earl of Ardglass's regiment (the 8th troop being upon duty in this town) drawn up in the field. I think, every body will own, that they were as adroit at their exercise, as any men could be, and that generally they were better mounted than the light horse in England. In the afternoon I spent near 3 hours with the general officers, and think it my duty to give your lordship an account of what passed, to the end the king may be fully informed: and I would to god, his majesty could hear and see every thing that is done and said here; which would be great happiness to those, who have the honour to serve him. My lord Tyrconnel told me, though the troops in the gross appeared well, yet he had marked several men, who upon account of their age, and for other reasons were not fit for the king's service. I answered, that he well knew the king's pleasure therein, and that in obedience thereunto I had given him full power to put out, and put in such common men, and non-commissioned officers, as he thought fit; and therefore I would not meddle in that matter: but I did desire, that, whatever men he thought fit to put out, it might be done regularly, and due certificates made thereof to the muster-master general, whereby I might grant warrants for the pay of those men so put out; which had not been observed in several places in the countries, where the new officers had dismissed great numbers of men, some even whole companies, without giving them any certificates of what was due to them; whereby the men were necessitated to come to Dublin to look after their little arrear of pay, (which is all they have to trust to) and to stay

stay there, till letters could be sent to their officers, and returns come from them. And this some would fain look upon as a mutiny, when they only (that is one, or two of them together) petitioned me in the most submissive terms to consider their condition. I said further, that all the murmuring I heard of (and one might hear it as one went along the streets) was, that the men, as they walked 2 and 3 together, would bemoan themselves: why, says one, may not I serve the king? I never served under any authority, but of the crown: nor I, says another; and we went last year into England to venture our lives. We are as lusty as thofe, who come into our rooms; and will go wherever the king bids us. My lord Tyrconnel replied, that he was sorry, there had been any such irregularities as I mentioned; and that, for the men whom he now intended to disband out of the horse, he would follow such methods as I would appoint; but the men, he had marked, must be put out; that he knew, many of them were ill men, and not qualified for the king's service. I said, though the several officers were satisfied with their men, who by the articles of war were formerly to be responsible for their companies, yet I would not meddle at all in the matter; nor did I desire, there should be any interruption given to the alterations he was making; and, for the method of discharging the men now to be put out, it was what is daily practised by all the officers of the army: my design was only to have things done quietly, that the men, when they were out, might have their money quickly, and go about their busines without cause of complaint. I added, there was one thing more, which I desired he would take care of; and that

that was concerning the horses of those, who were to be put out ; that the men might be justly satisfied for them, which would be a great relief to them. My lord said, that indeed many of the horses were very good, and it was very difficult to find any number of good horses here ; therefore he intended to have the horses now in the troops to be valued by two officers, and the men should have the money for which they were appraised ; but they must be contented to receive it at several gales, in regard that, he doubted, few of the new men, who were to be admitted, could lay down money for their horses. I replied, that it would be very hard for the men, who were put out, to be running once in 3 months, and that 4 or 5 times, to Dublin to look after their money ; whereas, if a man had all his money at once, it would enable him to buy a few cattle, whereby he might get a livelihood : and therefore to make that matter easy, if he would make a computation of how many horses would be bought in each regiment, and to what sum it would amount, I would imprest it to the colonels, and they should deduct it out of the new men's future pay ; which will be no prejudice to the king, and, I find, pleased all the general officers very well. I am sure, it shall be always my business to have the king's service carried on with all imaginable ease, and without raising difficulties, where there need be none. My lord Tyrconnel then said, the king would have no distinction made between his subjects ; that he had never put out any man for being a protestant, nor taken in one because he was a roman catholick ; but always chose those men, who seemed most likely to serve the king, without asking what religion they were of. And

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this he has often declared upon several occasions ; and particularly one day, when he, and my lord chief justice Keating, and I were together, and telling him, that some of the new officers had declared, they would have none but Irish in their companies, my lord Tyrconnel exclaimed against it, saying, those officers, who made those declarations, ought to be reproved, for it was the king's pleasure to be served indifferently by all his subjects of both nations and religions, and that there must be no distinction made ; which is suitable to all the commands I have received from his majesty, and certainly it is best, that all his officers should act upon the same foot. I am the more particular in this narrative, because in this discourse we had together my lord Tyrconnel seemed to find fault, that there were no more roman catholicks in the army ; to which I told him, if he would consult the muster rolls, he would find in 9 months time 2300 new men admitted, 5 parts of six whereof were Irish, and roman catholicks. But, after all these discourses, on thursday in the afternoon my lord Tyrconnel, after he had taken his leave of me, just as he was going out of town, he told my lord Roscommon (who was present at all the discourses the day before) in the presence of several of the officers, (and he had given the same orders to other officers before) that he must charge him upon his allegiance to admit no men into the vacancies he had made in the duke of Ormond's regiment, but roman catholicks. As this command did surprise every body, even many of the roman catholick officers, so, your lordship will believe, it quickly spread abroad ; for, I can assure you, it got to Dublin before me, and I returned thither on saturday : the great reason
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of my returning so very soon was to pacify the apprehensions, which would naturally seize men upon such a declaration. Whether my lord Tyrconnel did well in his frequent and positive asserting, that no distinction was to be made between his majesty's subjects of either nation, or religion ; or, whether he has done well now to declare, that one sort of them are not to be admitted into his majesty's service, the king himself is best able to judge. I shall only beg leave to repeat again to your lordship what I have formerly said, that the king may have every thing done here, which he has a mind to ; and it is much more easy to do things quietly, than in a storm : and I am sure, it is more for the king's service, that what he would have done should be done so, as the trading people may not be terrified, and leave the kingdom by being possessed with jealousies and imagination of things, which were never thought of. I have not said any thing of this to your lordship to be thought to complain of my lord Tyrconnel ; for I will always live towards him, as I ought to do towards one so intrusted by the king. But I am sure, it is my duty to inform your lordship of all matter of fact ; and upon that account I must beg leave to say, that it were to be wished for the king's service, that my lord Tyrconnel would put on another temper ; for his treating of men of all sorts in the most publick places is very extraordinary, and could not be digested, but by a resigned deference and duty to the king. Other men, whom the king employs, do their busines, and gain the good will of those they deal with ; which will the better enable them to serve the king. For my own particular, as far as I am trusted with the knowledge of what his majesty

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would have, I am sure, his pleasure shall be pursued; and I have given an effectual account of all the commands I have hitherto received, as far forth as the time would permit; and, as fast as it is possible, you will find an entire obedience to them all. It may not be amiss here to acquaint your lordship, that it is thought fit, I should recommend men to some towns (where it is doubted, the elections may not be good) for mayors, and sheriffs, and for common council men. In such cases I advise with those, who are best acquainted in those towns; particularly with justice Daly, and others of the king's council of that persuasion: and the lists of names, those men give me, are always equal, half English, and half Irish; which, they say, is the best way to unite and make them live friendly together. I only tell your lordship this, that you may see the difference of some men's tempers.

Since my being here, I have had some letters from unknown hands, and some informations of strange things that were doing: but they were too impertinent to trouble your lordship with, and I knew what credit to give to them; especially having traced out the authors of some of them, who prove to be Irish. But I have lately had one from an unknown hand of a more extraordinary nature; and, though I believe no more of it than of the rest, because, if it were true, methinks the same remorse of conscience, which induced the author to write as he has done, should oblige him to discover enough to prevent the threatened mischief, yet I think fit to send your lordship a copy of the letter: but there is no more cause to apprehend what it mentions, than that Whitehall should

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should be surprised at this time by the king's guards. I beg your lordship's pardon for this trouble, and am with all possible respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most faithful humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

I have just now received your lordship's of the 13th instant; which I will answer particularly in my next.

To the Lord T R E A S U R E R.

Dublin Castle, July 22. 1686.

I TOLD you in my last, that I had just then received yours of the 10th instant, which I am now to answer; and I will begin with the last part of it, and do really ask your pardon for my writing to my lord Sunderland about major Talbot, and captain Eastland's petition. The day after I had sent away my letter, reviewing some of my letters against the next post, I found my error; and I protest, I cannot imagine, how I came to commit it. I go not about to justify it, and cannot make an excuse for it: you are in the right, and I do truly own myself to have been in the wrong. I will add but one word more, that it is the only mistake I have made of that kind; and I dare undertake, it shall be the last. Certainly you need make no excuses for not writing to me, when you have not time: though it be the greatest comfort I can have to hear often from you, yet I know very well, how you are almost in perpetual motion; and therefore

fore I am not so unreasonable as to expect what cannot be. I have said what you directed me to my lord chancellor; who is very sensible of your kindness: but I find, he is no way satisfied with your chancellor, of whom he speaks terrible things.

Yesterday we had 2 packets from England; with which I received yours of the 15th instant. I must not omit to tell you one circumstance more of the cause about the Lymericke merchants. When the cause was first heard at council, which was on the 30th past, I gave 10 days time for consideration; and intimated, (because of the earnest pressing of some of the board) that, if the merchants would make such a submission, as they ought to make, they should have no cause to repent it. But, at the 10 days end, they were so far from making a submission, that they sent in a petition, justifying what they had done; which the whole board was sensible of, but some of their powerful friends undertook, that they should by the next council day submit themselves: whereupon I gave them a week longer; but still their proud hearts would not down; no submission came. And truly then, for example sake, and for the benefit of the revenue, as well as for the justification of the king's officers, who had done their duty honestly and stoutly, I thought fit to dismiss the appeal; whereby the judgment below on behalf of the king is affirmed. But, when the order came to be signed, not one roman catholick counsellor would sign it, though there were six present, the full half of the board; which perhaps may be, at one time or other, fit to be observed.

Yesterday

Yesterday my lord Tyrconnel came to town to council ; of which, and of what past between us afterwards I have given an account to my lord president, to which I refer you. Pray, observe the answer my lord Tyrconnel made me, when I recommended to him the keeping the secret ; so that, if it be publick, you may know, how it comes to be so : and between you and me he cannot keep a secret. Indeed it was a very extraordinary scene between my lord Tyrconnel and Roscommon ; the latter coming in so pat into the room, when every body thought him out of town. He positively averred, that the lieutenant general had given him orders, upon his allegiance, to admit no men, but roman catholicks into his regiment ; which Tyrconnel as positively denied, saying, he could not, nor ever had committed such an absurdity. God's wounds, said he, to ask a soldier, if he comes well mounted, and be a likely fellow, what religion he is of, is a ridiculous thing. Roscommon still averred it, and said, his major was of opinion with him, that the orders ought to be declared at the head of the regiment, that none of the officers might bring any other men ignorantly to be admitted ; and added, that his major had seconded what he told them, and declared, that he heard the lieutenant general give those orders. Then my lord Tyrconnel smiling said, god damn me, Cary, I could not give such orders ; for I knew, you had taken some roman catholicks into your troop : prithee, let us talk a little, what past, how could I bid thee do so ? Then my lord Roscommon replied, my lord, I will say any thing, you will have me ; but, by god, I will not deny the truth : if I were now to die, I must declare, that you commanded me,

me; upon my allegiance, to admit none, but roman catholicks into the regiment; and your lordship knows, you have given the same orders to several officers of the other regiment. By god, says my lord Tyrconnel, that is strange: and so after fending and proving we parted. And, I think, it is plain by this, he had no orders to make this declaration: at least the world believes so, for this whole affair is no secret. The duke of Ormond's major is an old German officer: his name is Macdonnell: he has the repute of a very honest man. He walked about at Kilkenny, and said, where he served, he never knew a distinction between soldiers upon the score of religion. I am very confident, here are many men put out, whom the king would not dismiss, if he saw them: but that cannot be otherwife. I think, I write pretty often to you; which I will continue to do as occasions offer, and as things come into my head. I here send you a copy of my lord president's last letter to me; and I think, I have done so of all he has writ me. When you are at leisure one time or other, pray, compare my letters and his; and judge, whether I am answered to half what I write. God keep you and all yours.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, July 22. 1686.

I TOLD your lordship in my last, that I had just then received your's of the 13th instant; by which I find, his majesty is pleased that captain Ridley should keep his company, of which I have sent him word. And now I must

must put your lordship in mind of captain Toby Caufield, who was to have had Ridley's company; the company, which he formerly had, having been given to my lord Ikerine, which he has sold by the king's permission lately to one Rooth. Captain Caufield is a very deserving man, of an ancient family, and has served the king very well at Tangier. Yesterday I called a council, and communicated his majesty's pleasure concerning the issuing a proclamation to put a stop to all prosecutions for words spoken several years since. I wish, your lordship had been more particular in limiting the time: the board were all of opinion, that the proclamation should extend to forgive all words spoken before the king's access to the crown. Mr. solicitor general is directed to prepare a draught; which shall be transmitted to your lordship for his majesty's approbation, before it be published. My lord Tyrconnel came to town from his own house to the council. Afterwards I desired him to come to the castle; which he did: my lord chancellor was with me. I acquainted him with the king's pleasure, signified in your lordship's of the 14th of june, concerning a commission of grace, and the calling a parliament; this being the first opportunity I had of consulting him, since the receipt of that letter. His discourse was so general, that I cannot yet tell your lordship his opinion; only that he seems averse to a commission, and says, many things must be prepared, (which will take up much time) before it will be fit to call a parliament. But he has promised to give us another meeting after his return from Mullingar; (whither he is gone today to see some of the foot, which rendezvous there) when, I hope, we may have a nearer

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conversation, and that he may have thought upon some of the particulars, which we had put to him ; for he would now only speak of generals. I desired him to remember, that it was the king's command this consultation should be kept secret. He answered, it was not such a secret, for he had an account of it from England. It may not be amiss to tell your lordship, that in this conference there was occasion to mention the jealousies and frights people were generally under ; which, I doubt not, I said, a little time would wear off, and the prudent carriage of the judges in their circuits would contribute much thereunto ; but, it was to be feared, the general and positive orders, he had given at Kilkenny, not to admit any but catholicks into the vacancies now made would put the world into new amazements : to which my lord Tyrconnel replied, that he never gave any such orders, and desired he might know, who reported such a thing of him. When he was told, that he had given those orders very positively to my lord Roscommon, as well as to several other officers, he firmly denied it ; but, whilst we were together, it happened, that my lord Roscommon was in the next room, booted, newly come to town. As soon as he came in, he was asked, what orders my lord Tyrconnel gave him upon parting at Kilkenny ? My lord Roscommon repeated the same I told your lordship in my last. My lord Tyrconnel denied it : the other averred it, with this further, that major Macdonell gave the same orders in the head of the troops, and said, he was commanded so to do by the lieutenant general. I think it my duty to give your lordship these particular accounts of matters of fact, as I have done constantly since my being

ing here, that so the king may know the truth of every thing.

By the accounts I have had from the judges in their circuits I find, they use all possible means to compose the minds of people, and to prevent their leaving the kingdom ; which very many in all parts are preparing to do. Amongst other things they declare upon the bench the king's resolution not to have the acts of settlement infringed ; and they give it in charge to the grand juries to enquire after those, who spread the reports of the present proprietors being to lose their lands ; and that they should present all such, that they may be proceeded against, as the divulgers of false news. This conduct of the judges will, as they send me word, much settle men. I have had some informations against men, who have openly declared, that by christmas day there shall not be a protestant left in the army : I have ordered them to be bound over to appear the next sessions. This course being taken at the beginning will make men keep their discourses within bounds ; and it will be a great satisfaction to the generality of the kingdom to see, that the government does not countenance the impertinent talk of very idle men. I must not omit telling your lordship, that the new judges take as much pains as it is possible to settle the minds of the people, wherever they go ; and they take care to have all the juries mingled, half English, and half Irish.

I am with very great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most faithful humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

B b b 2

To the Duke of ORMOND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, July 22. 1686.

BY your grace's favour I was last week at Kilkenny ; but I must go again, before I can give your grace, or even myself any account of that noble place ; for I could not see much of it, my stay having been there but two days : in which time I saw your grace's regiment there, and my lord of Ardglass'e's, all but one troop, which was here upon duty. Your major thought your's a very good regiment, and so did many other officers ; but our lieutenant general had many exceptions to make to it, and particularly against your quarter masters ; who, he said, must be displaced ; of all which I doubt not but your grace has had a particular account from your lieutenant colonel, who was very zealous, according to his duty, to preserve your rights and privileges in your regiment : and my lord Tyrconnel thereupon directed him (saying, he had as much respect for your grace as any man living) to know your pleasure, and to give you an account of every thing, before any of your non-commissioned officers were removed. But a great many of the common men are put out ; many of whom, I believe, nobody else would have dismissed : some, his lordship says, he is satisfied, are disaffected to, and not well qualified for the king's service ; and the officers, who ought to know them best, are not to be believed in the characters they give of their men. That which was most remarkable at Kilkenny was the charge, the lieutenant general gave my lord Roscommon, upon his allegiance to admit none into your grace's regiment,

ment, but roman catholicks ; which, you will believe, does not a little confirm men in the fears they were under before. But this my lord Tyrconnel has since denied ; and my lord Roscommon positively avers it to his face. But it cannot be doubted, that my lord Tyrconnel gave him those orders ; for he did the same to other officers, even roman catholicks, who will own it, and were troubled for it. It would be too tedious to give your grace a minute account of all these particulars ; but my brother can do it, if you please. I have written at large all matters of fact to my lord president : if the king reads my letters, and is satisfied with the proceedings, he is the best judge. I am with all possible deference,

My Lord,

Your Grace's
most obedient and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To Mr. Blathwaite.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, July 29. 1686.

I RETURN you many thanks for both yours of the 6th, and 8th instant, and for the plans you sent me of the 2d encampment, and the review of the whole army ; which were very easy to be understood ; and certainly the camp must have been very fine, though, I doubt, it has been very expensive to the officers. I am very glad, the king has provided a governour for the Bermudas : I am sure, colonel Coney was no fit man for such an employment. I am obliged to you for the answers you have sent

to

to my questions ; whereby I perceive, I was in the right before in my own thoughts : but some of our officers here think it very reasonable, that those men, who are put out of the troops for no other reason, but because they are not thought fit to serve, should leave their horses behind them, though they brought them with them into the troop ; and I am sure, some of these unfit men would not have been disbanded, if the king had seen them. But, for the horses, I have ordered, the owners shall either take them away, or be paid the value for them ; which angers some men. I have likewise ordered the disbanded foot to have a consideration for their cloths ; which wonderfully dissatisfies some of the new officers, though indeed, I think, without reason : but many of them are very griping, and sell their quarter masters, adjutants, and clerks places for whatever they can get ; which, with some other things, must in time undo an army. What will happen upon the death of sir William Soames ? Will my lord Chandois be continued in Turky ; or, will the king recommend another ambassadour to the company ? I doubt, that trade is very low at this time : it were well, if it could be in any degree encouraged, for it is the most beneficial trade in England. I am very really,

Sir,

Your most affectionate servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord Treasurer.

Chapel Izod, July 31. 1686.

I WRIT to you on tuesday by my lord Granard, though he went not off till thursday. I likewise writ 3 or 4 other letters to you at the same time by so many of our unfortunate disbanded officers; which really I know not how to avoid: and several of them will not disgrace you, if you find, you can do them good by owning them. On wednesday my lord Tyrconnel came to town again to council: afterwards we had some discourse together (though not much) upon the former affair. What he said was all upon generals, and that he had spoken to a friend, who, he was sure, would be very secret, to draw up something in writing, which he would speedily shew us; but then, said he, by god, I know not what I do here: you consult together, and are too strong for me. My lord chancellor was with me. I desired him not to think, that we had any design upon him; that, as the king had given me leave to advise with whom I thought fit, and had named nobody but himself to me, so I had paid that respect to his lordship, as to advise with him in the first place, my lord chancellor only excepted; and that, if he were now ready for a consultation, I would call some others to me, and particularly such as his lordship should desire. He then fell to inveigh against a commission: the last, he said, was abominable, and detestable, and another would be ridiculous and nonsensical. Then he fell into cursing and swearing, that he could not imagine, why the bringing in a few popish officers and soldiers into the army should

should make such jealousies and apprehensions among people, that they must lose their lands, and the acts of settlement were broken, when it would appear, after he had made all the alterations he now designed, that there would not be a 7th part of the army roman catholicks. I told him, that it was not said, the acts of settlement were broken by bringing in a few roman catholick officers and soldiers into the army, but the discourses some of those officers and soldiers made, that they should now have their lands again ; that by christmas day there should not be an Englishman, nor a protestant in the army ; and some of the natives having actually prohibited English tenants to pay their rents to their present landlords, who were in possession of their lands by law. These things, I said, put jealousies and apprehensions into people's heads, that there would be alterations made in the settlements ; that, as to what he said of the army, if his lordship had a mind to see how he was mistaken in his calculation, I would shew him in a minute, that, since he was here this time twelve months, and before he arrived now, there were 2300 new men received into the army ; above 2000 whereof were roman catholicks, and how many would be admitted into the places of those whom he now put out, I would not say, till I could do it from the muster rolls, as I did the rest : to all which the answer was, by god, that cannot be. I told him, we need not run now into these discourses ; that it was not material, how many roman catholicks were in the army, if the king would have it so ; for whatever his majesty would have should be made easy, as far as lay in me : but, if those who were employed, and should be wiser, would give occasions by their

their discourses to fright people, some course must be thought of to be taken with them. After discoursing at this rate an hour and half at last we parted : and his lordship desired, that, when he returned from the north, we might meet again upon our great affair ; and, besides those I might think of to call to the consultation, he prayed, that major general Macarty, lord chief justice Keating, Mr. Nangle, and Mr. solicitor might be there ; and then he made an elogium upon the perfect honesty, and exact integrity of the solicitor. I told him, with all my heart ; they should be all appointed, and that I liked all of them very well. This wednesday in the afternoon lord Tyrconnel was shut up 3 hours with the roman catholick primate and Mr. Nangle : in the evening he went to his own house. On thursday in the afternoon my lady Longford, and some other company, who had dined here, went to visit lady Tyrconnel, the house being about 8 miles off : my sister went with them. She tells me, my lord was at home, and that he singled her from the rest of the company. After some common things he asked her, what her husband was gone for into England ? She told him, he had several projects on foot, and that he hoped to succeed in some or other of them, that they might be able to live ; for they were at present very low in their fortunes. I hate a project, said he : why do not your brothers do something for him ? She says, she told him, that she doubted not her brothers kindness to her, when it was in their power. To which he replied, my lord lieutenant may provide for you, when he pleases. Here is Price, the receiver general, a great rascal ; why does not your brother turn him out, and put your hus-

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band into his place? Do not you know Price to be an ill man? No indeed, my lord, said she: I only know, that he has been always very civil to me. And, said he, here is Bridges a commissioner of the revenue, a damned fanatick: he is kept in by your brothers. Get my lord lieutenant to put him out, and to bring in your husband there. She says, she answered, that neither she nor her husband desired to make their fortunes by ruining others: and so, after many compliments, and professions of how much he would serve her, the conversation ended, as she tells me. It is not of any use to tell you all this; but, if it were possible, you should know all that passes here.

On thursday my lord chancellor, and Mr. Nangle dined with me: they came together. In the afternoon we had much discourse upon the great point of what was fit to be done for the quieting men's minds. I told him, I did intend shortly to call him and some others to consult seriously upon that subject, and that I was glad of this opportunity to confer a little beforehand with him. He said, my lord Tyrconnel had told him something of it; and had bid him prepare something in writing. He said, he could not believe, a commission would be useful, or that it would bring in any money considerable; that, whatever should be thought fit to be done, either for confirming the present settlements, or for the relief of such of the old proprietors as ought to be relieved, would be done best by parliament: but that, he thought, it was yet too soon to think of calling a parliament; that many things were necessary first to be done, and even the acts ought first to be prepared and agreed on; which, he owned, would take up very much time, for the several interests

refts ought to be first felt and discoursed with, that is, some of the most considerable of them ; and, till he had done that, and fully weighed things, (for there were many difficulties in the way) he could not put any thing into writing, though my lord Tyrconnel was in great haste. This was the sum of our conference : after our intended consultation you shall have an account of the result ; whereby you will see, what these people drive at. And I will keep them to the point ; that is, that Mr. Nangle and his people shall set down, what they would have, and what they think fit for the king to do. You will see by the enclosed, what I have said to my lord president. I have not written so particularly, as I have done to you, because I thought it better to stay till after the intended consultation ; when we shall certainly come to some sort of resolution, whereby much will be discovered. Yesterday (friday) the major general, and Mr. Nihill (a young lawyer, lately made of the king's council) made a visit to my lord chancellor. After the usual compliments, and some ordinary discourses, Macarty told the chancellor, that he had extremely disappointed them (the Irish) in the expectation they at first had of him. The chancellor asked, wherein he had deceived them ? that he was a frank man, and would discourse very freely to him, if he would come to particulars. Why then, said the major general, we did expect, you should have done all that the king commanded without any hesitation. So I have, said the chancellor : there is not one command I have received from the king, which I have not obeyed ; and I will ever do so. I may perchance make some representations to the king, sometimes contrary to what he has di-

rected, as I have leave to do ; but, if the king orders his former commands to be notwithstanding pursued, they shall be obeyed with all possible readiness and cheerfulness. You are very scrupulous, said Macarty; in admitting roman catholicks to be justices of the peace, though the king has directed by his letter, that they should be admitted : you refused our primate's brother, and several others for no reason, but because they had no estates. My lord lieutenant, said the chancellor, gave me the king's commands as soon as he received them, and I as presently put them in execution ; that is, I immediately spoke to the 3 new judges, and all the other roman catholicks, who are in the king's service, and others whom I knew, to furnish me with the names of men proper for that employment ; that there were several lists given me for most counties ; that I admitted all, whom any of the king's council, or any other person of worth, fit to be credited, would answer for upon their own knowledge ; that, for the others, for whom they would not answer, he had informed himself of them, and found, that they were men of no estates, that is, not of above 5l. or 10l. a year ; that many of them were infamous men, some of them had been convicted of robberies, others stood accused for harbouring and protecting of tories ; and such I did not, said he, think fit to put into the king's commission. As for your primate's brother, he is a poor country fellow, lives upon six pounds a year, which he rents of sir Mich. Cole ; and has nothing else in the world. After all this, said he, if you think fit for the king's service to have such a man come upon the bench, he shall be a justice of peace. No, in good faith, said Macarty, I do not think it

it fit ; and I wonder, continued he, that any one should move for him : but, proceeded the major general, you make difficulty in putting ill men out of commission, except they are proved to be rogues by some notorious villainy they have committed, which will be hard for us to prove. Sir, said the chancellor, it is not enough to say in the general, such, or such a man is a rogue : the best of men may be so blasted. But, if any man comes and tells me, such a man is an ill man upon my own experience ; that he lived so and so, and did thus and thus at such a time ; without any further proof I will put all such men out of commission. Whereupon Macarty named one or two, whom he desired him to put out ; and gave very good reasons, why they were not good men, but could not readily tell, in what counties they were in commission. Sir, replied the chancellor, send me a note of them tomorrow, and I will put them out. Faith, my lord, said Macarty, I think you are a very honest gentleman, but they say, you have taken 10000l. of the whigs ; and there are thoughts of having you sent for home. Sir, said the chancellor, I thank god, I am above bribes, and I flatter myself, that the king has a better opinion of me, than to believe any such thing, till he sees it proved.. I can safely take my oath, that directly, or indirectly I have not had a penny since I came hither, (more than the king's allowance) but 156l. from the profits of the place ; that I had been told indeed, my lord Tyrconnel had reported, the whigs had given me 10000l. ; that, when I see my lord Tyrconnel next, I shall desire him to give me an account thereof, for such aspersions are not to be borne.. The truth is, says Mr. Nihill, my lord Tyrconnel's tem-

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per is very inconvenient : he is hot and passionate, and sometimes reports things, which light people tell him, without enquiring or considering ; and, if he takes a pique at a man, though he may pretend to be reconciled, he has a fly way, and will never leave, till he has ruined him, if he can. Faith, Mr. Nihill, says the chancellor, if that be the humour of my lord Tyrconnel, it is an ill one ; and I will hereafter be more upon my guard, when I am with him. As for my being called home, continued he, I would be very sorry, it should be with the king's displeasure ; but without that I shall be always ready to be disposed of, as his majesty pleaseth. Come, says Macarty, I will bring my lord Tyrconnel to you, and we will talk as we have done now ; and, by god, if he be not your friend, he shall not be mine : and therefore pray, my lord, do not take notice of these reports. No, says the chancellor ; but, when my lord Tyrconnel comes to town, I must desire him to explain himself about the 100000, and I will beg you to be by, Sir ; which was agreed upon. This dialogue I had from my lord chancellor this morning ; but he desired me not to take notice of it as yet. Though I think it very necessary, that you should know every thing ; yet it may not be proper, if you please, to seem to know this, till things are a little riper, or, till you find, how matters work there ; because I have been so particular both as to things and persons : but ere long possibly it may be fit to shew all. After the next conference, I fancy, I shall be able to tell you much. My lord Tyrconnel is gone this day (saturday) into the north to see my lord Forbes's, and Fairfax's regiments ; and then he will have visited all the army. He will

will be back about the end of the next week ; and he told me, that very quickly after he will be going for England. He seems much out of humour, and says, people make stories of him, and pretend he gives orders, which he does not give, though they are offered to be proved to him. My lord Roscommon, I find, sticks in his stomach. Some say, he loses credit among his own people ; but that I do not assert. I am assured, my lord Tyrconnel seems to wonder, why my lord Granard is gone into England ; and one would think he were frightened, when he hears of any body's going over : he says, sure my lord lieutenant sends such a one. I told a friend of his the other day, speaking of such things, that truly I had sent nobody over ; but it was no new thing for a lord lieutenant to send over frequent messengers to the king ; and, if I did send one, when his lordship was in the way, he should know it, and he shall carry any commands of his, if he had a mind to employ him. I think, I have pretty well tired you : I am sure, I am weary myself ; but these letters will be good entertainment for you at the waters. I pray, god keep you, and my sister, and all yours ; and grant, the waters may do well with you both ; for which I shall be much the better.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, July 31. 1686.

I TOLD your lordship in my last, that the draught of the proclamation concerning words should be transmitted to your lordship for the king's approbation ; but the

the last council day, the board, having approved of the draught, were of opinion, that it would come too late to stop many of the proceedings, if it should be delayed, till I could hear again out of England, in regard the judges were all in their circuits. And upon consideration of your lordship's letter, which directed me with the advice of the council to issue such a proclamation as shall be requisite in that behalf, I thought fit to approve of the said proclamation ; and it was immediately sent down to the judges. I here send your lordship a copy of it. It may not be amiss here to acquaint your lordship, that at the assizes at Trim, which were about a fortnight since, Mr. Meredith came to his trial ; a case, which perhaps may have reached your lordship, for it made a great noise here. I know nothing of the gentleman, but upon the account of this affair ; for I never saw him in my life. He was informed against about September last for words spoken 5 years before, and was bound to appear at the next Lent assizes ; which he did. But it was then alledged, the king's council were not ready, and that the witnesses could not be found : so the trial came on at these assizes ; where the witnesses did so contradict, and differ with one another, that judge Daly gave it in strict charge to the jury to consider well what they did, for the prosecution appeared to him to be malicious. He enlarged much upon the unconscionableness of indicting men upon words spoken so many years since, when the prosecutors could not pretend to prove, that they set down the particular words at the time, they were said to be spoken ; and that the former lives and conversations of the parties accused ought to be considered, and that most of those, now charged

ged before him in court, could give good accounts of themselves, (Mr. Meredith particularly) and were well known in the countries where they lived. Hereupon the jury, the major part of whom were Irish, acquitted him, and the rest. Mr. justice Nugent made the same declarations at Drogheda; where several persons were tried for words, upon bills found at lent assizes: and they were all acquitted, except one man; who was found guilty of words spoken about a year and half since, and was fined by the court five pounds.

My lord Tyrconnel was here on wednesday at council. We had some discourse together afterwards, but not much upon the former matter ; he desiring, we might advise with more persons together ; which will be done at his return from the north, whither he goes this day, and will be back towards the end of the next week. He speaks of going into England quickly after his return. I have nothing further at this time to trouble your lordship with, but to beg the continuance of your favour to,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON, C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 3. 1686.

YOU had scarce had a letter from me at this time, if by some neglect or other (and I cannot imagine, how it happened) the enclosed copy of my letter to my
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lord president had not been forgot in my last : it is of no great importance, but I have resolved, you should see it, and know every thing I write to him ; which, I think, you have hitherto done. My lord chief justice Keating came to town on saturday. Not being very well, as he is often out of order, he left Mr. baron Rice to keep the assizes alone at Wexford ; and he will meet him again at Wicklow, which is the last place. He was with me yesterday. I told him, when my lord Tyrconnel came back, which would be before the end of this week, we were to have a conference upon the great affair, which he had been acquainted with, and that he was to be present. His answer was, that my lord Tyrconnel was a strange man ; that it was very happy, if his fury did no harm ; that, for his part, he could not believe any one, who really wished the settlement of this kingdom, could think it adviseable to call a parliament, till something was first done to allay the jealousies and apprehensions people were under. But, he said, he saw plainly, that some now in credit do design the undoing the English interest ; which is the reason, they are against a commission ; because then all will be loose, when a parliament meets, and the adjusting of bills, which will be pretended for healing, will be so tedious, that the kingdom will be half ruined in the mean time. He says, in his opinion something ought to be done, without the loss of a minute's time, if it were possible ; for that it is undeniable, the insolence of many of the natives of all qualities is very great in most counties, where he has been ; and that their discourses, (being now in authority) that they will speedily be in possession of their lands, are enough to fright poor tenants, who think,

think, they shall lose their stocks, when their landlords lose their estates. In a word, said he, if the king be resolved, as he seems to me to be by all that has come to my knowledge, to support the English interest, and the acts of settlement, for god sake see, if he will give you leave to issue such a proclamation, as was done in the earl of Essex's time; there being the like occasion in some measure upon kindness shewed to the natives, though not in so great a degree, as now. But said he, that proclamation quieted men's minds then, and, I verily believe, would do an infinite deal of good now. And truly I am of that opinion too, for every body has a mind to believe what the king says; and in my life I never knew people more inclined to duty and obedience, than the generality here are; and they would fain be at work, if they were not frightened. My lord chief justice concluded with saying, he would not fail to be at the meeting; and, if people would hearken to reason, they should hear it. Certainly this approaching conference will lay the whole state of this kingdom, with reference to the present tempers, plainly before his majesty; upon whose determination will depend the future prosperity of it. When I send my lord president an account thereof, I will likewise send him one of the proclamations I mention: in the mean time I here send you one. If you can do any good therein, and send me a surprising letter to publish such another, it would be a wonderful reviving of an industrious dejected people, and the greatest encouragement could be at this time given to the increase of the king's revenue; which, god knows, is in a declining state, as you will in a few days see by what I shall send you. Every packet from Eng-

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land brings some entertainment or other : the last, which was of the 27th past, says, (at least I have seen mention of it in two or three letters hither) that my lord Mountague was extraordinarily well received by the king, and that the general opinion was, that he should be secretary of state in the place of my lord Middleton, though it is not said, that that lord is in disgrace, or that he is to be advanced to a higher station : if that should be, I will only say, miracles are not yet ceased. On sunday sir Pat. Trant arrived here in a Chester ship : yesterday major general Macarty brought him to me. He told me, he left my lord treasurer well, &c. God keep you and all yours.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Dublin Castle, Aug. 4. 1686. five in the afternoon.

I CAME this morning to council, where we had little or no busines, and but a very small appearance, almost every body being out of town ; so that I have adjourned the council to michaelmas, except any thing of consequence require it, and then I can call one. This very moment by an express I have an account brought me of the unfortunate death of honest tory Hamilton ; of which I have given an account of all I know to my lord president, as you see by what I have written. You shall have an account of the particulars of the fact, as soon as I know them. This poor man's family is very numerous, and ever loyal ; which is the reason I have ventured to recommend his brother, who really purchased the command for.

for the tory. What success I shall have, god knows: however I have done my part. The news was sent me by a very worthy clergyman, who was then upon the place; but he tells no more than I have wrote. No man in those parts can be more lamented than this poor William Hamilton by all the honest British, for the good he had done in securing the peace of that whole province: for, though I must not say it aloud, none of the natives, whatever they promise, will endeavour to take any of their countrymen, who are upon their keeping. God keep you and all yours.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Aug. 4. 1686.

I SHOULD not have given your lordship the trouble of a letter at this time; were it not to acquaint you (which I beg you to inform the king of) with a very unhappy accident, which is this minute brought me by an express. On monday last captain William Hamilton, in colonel Hamilton's regiment of dragoons, was stabbed with a skean by his own lieutenant, Murt. Magennis, at Downe, and died that night. I have yet no account of the particulars, only that the assizes were then sitting at Downe; so that I cannot doubt, but the judges will see justice done; of which your lordship shall be informed, as soon as I can do it. In regard this captain Hamilton was a very honest man, and of a loyal family, and that his elder brother purchased this command for him, I humbly beg pardon, if I presume to mention, that his majesty may.

may be moved to bestow this troop of dragoons upon the unfortunate captain's said elder brother, whose name is Mr. John Hamilton, who is likewise a very good man. They are a numerous family, and very honest. I confess, I was sorry when I found, this Magennis was made Hamilton's lieutenant; for it was not like they could agree, there having been long and great feuds between them; and the man might have made a good officer to another captain, which I told my lord Tyrconnel: but he was of another opinion, saying, the king had been informed of all those differences; that they might both be in the wrong in those matters, and putting them together was the way to reconcile them. My lord Tyrconnel will not be returned from the north till tomorrow, or friday. I am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 7. 1686.

IN my last I gave you the best account I then could of the unfortunate killing honest, and infinitely to be lamented William Hamilton. I have since had a further account thereof from the judges, who were then upon the place; a copy of whose letter I herewith send you, as likewise a letter which I had from sir Thomas Fotherly; who was then at Downe, having asked me leave to take a ramble

a ramble into the north. When the dean of Downe, who is a very worthy and discreet man, sends up the examinations, you shall have an account thereof.

On thursday last my lord Tyrconnel returned out of the north to his own house, about 8 miles from hence. Yesterday morning I writ to him to put him in mind of the meeting he had promised, and to let him know, that the lord chief justice Keating was in town; and that it would be best to meet, before he went to Wicklow. His lordship was pleased to answer my letter, and to tell me, that he could not come to town yesterday; but that he would not fail to be at the castle today at 10 in the morning. At the hour appointed I was there; my lord chancellor, and Mr. solicitor with me. The first thing I met with upon my arrival from Chapel Izod was a letter from my lord chief justice Keating, that he had last night received a letter (after he had been with me) from baron Rice, who was taken very ill with the gout at Wexford; and therefore his lordship was obliged to go this morning to Wicklow, or else the commission would fall; for I had resolved yesterday, that he should not go to Wicklow at all. Well, we three continued together till near one of the clock, and no lord Tyrconnel came. At length, as we were all taking coach to come hither to dinner, in came his lordship, made twenty excuses for coming so late, that one of his horses had lost a shoe by the way, which kept him two hours before he could get it mended, &c. Well, I asked him, where Mr. Nangle was? whether I should send for him? The major general was here. His lordship answered, faith, my lord, it is very late: we cannot talk much now. Mr. Nangle, I believe, is

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is not so ready, as he will be a few days hence; and besides I would not be without my lord chief justice Keating; who is both an honest and a wise man, and understands this country as well as any body. He then fell to discourse of his going presently into England. I desired him to appoint a day, when he would certainly meet, and when Mr. Nangle would be ready. He then agreed, it should be on Friday next, by which time my lord chief justice Keating would be returned. I said, I hoped, he would not go for England before that day. He replied, no; but that he should be going quickly after; and so that day stands for the meeting. He has not thought fit yet to tell me the day he intends to leave us; but all his friends in the town say, it will be on Wednesday come sennight. On Friday we do resolve to push them to some resolution; and it shall appear to the king, where the delay is: and a representation shall be made, whereby his majesty may know the truth of every thing here; and then he will best know, what remedy to apply. Some encouragement must speedily be given, or else the king will lose a great deal of the profit of this (as it hath been) flourishing country; and will be deprived of many more of the laborious people than are yet gone.

I have sent you to the treasury a state of the last quarter's accompt, with my observations thereupon; which, I am sure, are true. I shall very quickly send you an account of the exportations; and then you will see every thing as clear, as if you were upon the place. God keep you and all yours.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Aug. 7. 1686.

IN my last I gave your lordship an account of the unfortunate death of captain William Hamilton; since which I have had a short account thereof from the judges, as much as they could then tell me. I send your lordship herewith a copy of their letter to me: as soon as I receive the examinations they mention, they shall be likewise sent to your lordship. My lord Tyrconnel returned yesterday out of the north, and this day he came to town; but we could not have our intended conference by reason my lord chief justice Keating was forced to go this morning to the assizes at Wicklow, or else the commission must have fallen; Mr. baron Rice being fallen so very ill of the gout at Wexford, that he could not stir from thence: so that our meeting is put off till friday; when both these judges, if well, will be in town.

Sir Arthur Gore, a gentleman of a very good estate here, hath lately given me a petition; wherein he desires to have a grant from the king to create his said lands into a manor. I referred it to Mr. solicitor general; whose report, together with the petition, I take the liberty to transmit to your lordship; as likewise the draught of a letter for the king to write to me, in case his majesty shall think fit to gratify the petitioner; which, I am told, is usual to tender in these cases. I am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDRON. C. P. S.

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LETTERS OF

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 12. 1686.

I HAVE received your's of the 3d instant, and am very glad Tunbridge agrees so well with you, and that you are so near finishing that course; for, by the time this comes to you, I suppose, you will be settled in your old quarters. I do extremely rejoice at what you tell me, that my sister is much the better for the waters: I pray god confirm her health. And now I might end here, and so you would once have a very short letter; but that what I have written to my lord president (of which you have here the copy) does give me occasion to say something to you. Though it be a money matter, I think, it is for those, for whom you do not much care to solicit; and, as they depend all upon my lord president, so I am very willing they should see where the fault lies, that they have not what they expect, and that it does not lie at my door. It is really very hard to tell men, that orders are sent me, when there are none; and I think, I could not say less than I have done to his lordship upon that subject. The roman catholick primate says, he was assured by my lord president, that my lord Tyrconnel would bring effectual orders for their allowances; and yesterday he told me, it had been better they had never been put in hopes of any thing. He said, my lord Tyrconnel had his head full of he knew not what, and never thought of them. Though he seemed to believe what I told him, that I had not any orders concerning him, yet he said, it was strange his correspondent should write as he did from the secretary's office:

office: and so he seemed to have as much distrust, as his good manners would give him leave. In a word you cannot imagine, how little these men can bear prosperity: whatever the king thinks fit out of bounty to allow them, they think to be their due, as well as their merit; and, if all forms of business are not leaped over for their sakes, and, if things are not despatched sooner than is possible, they think themselves injured. This Turlogh Magwire, in the enclosed mentioned, is a sad soul, and was actually a groom, and looked to a gentleman's horse since I came into the country; and therefore may well not be thought fit to be a cornet: the truth is, it was laughed at by all their countrymen. The other, Cornelius, is a poor creature too, and will be as much laughed at, when he is in the troop, and has learnt to ride: but I find, the prelate intends to keep him a good while from his colours; and the pay shall perhaps keep him, and Turlogh too. Tomorrow will be our great conference; of which the next post will give you an account. Yesterday my lord chancellor, and Mr. solicitor dined with my lord Tyrconnel at Cartowne, alias Talbot, its new name; where they had some discourse upon the main point. But my lord chancellor tells me, it is plain, they intend to bring all to confusion, and to have nothing settled; which, I suppose, will not be the king's intention. They would have the king give no further assurances of preserving the acts of settlement, till a parliament is called; and there arise so many difficulties in the matters, that must be thought of preparatory to a parliament, that no two of them can agree upon any thing, much less, when a parliament should be called: so that, I imagine, if the learn-

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ed of the gown of their side have not the luck to hit upon something to amuse the rest, and plausibly to desire longer time for solid deliberation, and weighing and examining all particulars, I shall give you good entertainment in my next.

The king's charge upon his revenue is so very great at present, (of which I will write particularly to you the next week) that I know not how to move the laying out any money; but really the chief governour does extremely want a habitation. I do not think it necessary he should have a royal palace, fit to hold the king and queen, and whole court; but a good house he ought to have, and the country deserves it. Such a one, fit for him to be decently accommodated in, I am sure, might be built for 5000l, or 6000l; and it should be a better house, than any is now in London. If you please, I will send you over such a model, and an estimate. If that were once done, more might be added to it hereafter, whenever the king pleased; and in the mean time there would be no need: but in good earnest, as it is now, I have no necessary convenient room. In a word, no gentleman in the Pall-Mall is so ill lodged in all respects. I hope, I am not immodest in what I propose; especially considering, that I have put the king to no expence since my being here; which every body cannot say. I might add, that the keeping up, that is, the keeping dry, this pitiful bit of a castle costs an incredible deal; of which you shall have a particular account laid before you. God knows, whether I am designed to be long-lived enough here to do any thing of this work: what pleaseth god, and the king. I will think no more of it, till you direct me. God keep you and all yours.

To Lord S U N D E R L A N D.

My Lord,

Chapel Izod, Aug. 12. 1686.

IN your lordship's of the 13th of the last month (and I have since had none from you) you were pleased to tell me, that I should speedily have directions concerning the roman catholick primate. He came to me the same day I received that letter from your lordship, and told me, he had an account from England, that orders were sent me for his supply. I assured him, I had none, and shewed him that clause in your lordship's letter; at which he seemed much to wonder. He hath been with me twice, or thrice since: I could but assure him, that I had received no orders as yet concerning him; and that, as soon as I had, he should have an account thereof. Yesterday he was with me again, and shewed me a letter from his correspondent at London, dated the 3d instant; wherein he writes to this effect — that he had been at my lord president's; that Mr. Bridgeman told him, he could not then speak with my lord, he being very private; but that he need not trouble himself, for full orders were sent to me concerning the roman catholick primate. When he shewed me this, I could but assure him, that I knew nothing of his affair; and that I never had a word concerning him, but what he saw from your lordship in yours of the 13th past. My lord, I do never solicit the king in disposing of his money; but when any, such as these roman catholick bishops, tell me, the king has promised them support, and beg me to write about it, which I promise them to do, I am sure, they shall have no cause.

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to think, I do not deal candidly and sincerely with them. This good man is willing to believe me; and yet he knows not well how to look, when I truly deny what his agent so positively writes from your lordship's office. I do therefore humbly beg your lordship, that you will give directions, that people may not be told I have orders concerning them, till such orders are really sent away.

There is another particular I am to acquaint your lordship with. In the list of new officers Turlogh Magwire is made cornet in captain William Hamilton's troop of dragoons: he is brother to the roman catholick primate; who tells me, he is not fit for that employment; which is not to be doubted, if what I hear from other hands be true. But he tells me, he has another brother, whose name is Cornelius; upon whom, he hopes, the king will bestow that command. If his majesty shall so vouchsafe, I may, upon his pleasure signified by your lordship, alter the name in the commission. The roman catholick primate tells me further, his brother Cornelius is young; he has brought him to town from school, and desires, he may keep him sometime at Dublin to learn him to ride; all which I thought fit to impart to your lordship, and am ready to follow such orders, as you shall give me therein. I am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENCE. C. P. S.

To Lord MIDDLETON.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, Aug. 12. 1686.

I HAVE lately received from your lordship his majesty's reference upon the petition of Mr. Hill; who is appointed by the states general of the united provinces to be consul, and to reside in this kingdom for the affairs of the merchants, who trade hither from those parts. I thought fit to advise thereupon with the lords of his majesty's privy council here; who were unanimously of opinion, that it might be a great encouragement to the trade of this kingdom to have such a consul live here. I have likewise advised with the most considerable merchants here of both nations, I mean English and Irish, trading into those parts; and they all agree, that a consul from the states general residing here, as is proposed, may be of good advantage to the trade of this kingdom, and consequently to the king's revenue, both which have need, at this time, of all possible support.

It would be unnecessary to entertain your lordship with any thing relating to the affairs of this place, for fear of diverting you from your more weighty employments; and not doubting, but your lordship knows as much of them, as you have a mind to, from what I write to my lord president. I am very glad to lay hold of this, and of all opportunities to express my respects to your lordship, and to assure you, that I am with all possible esteem,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,
CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the KING.

Sir,

Aug. 14. 1686.

MY lord president will give your majesty an account of the consultation I had yesterday with my lord chancellor, my lord Tyrconnel, and others, your majesty's officers and servants here: I humbly beseech your majesty to be pleased to call for it. Though I am told, sir, by some, that I ought not to make those representations, I do, to your majesty; yet, till I am forbid by your command, I should think myself inexcusable, if I did not lay before you my thoughts of the present condition of this kingdom, abstracted from all interest or designs, but your service; and I flatter myself, your majesty thinks me incapable of any other. I am unwilling, sir, to give a rash judgment or censure upon any men; but I doubt, there are some, who have no mind to make much haste to settle this poor country; or rather, who will ravel so far into the present settlements, under which your people have flourished for 20 years past, as will confirm men in the opinions they have had, (though without ground hitherto) that they should lose the estates they have been so long possessed of: all which apprehensions were easily to be pacified by telling them, that they are safe in their possessions by laws, which cannot be altered but by their own consents; and that your majesty will not suffer those laws to be infringed. As this will at all times satisfy reasonable men, so a little time would convince the more ordinary (the more numerous) sort; who are not of a capacity to examine into the grounds of their fears,

fears, which are raised by the discourses and threatenings of wiser, and in appearance better men than themselves. Not to trouble your majesty with longer discourses than are necessary, I will only give you some heads of the causes, upon which the English ground their apprehensions. In the first place they are alarmed at the great alterations made in the army: for, though it be positively averred by some of the great officers, that, when all the changes are made, there will not be above a 7th part natives, it is notoriously known, that there are already 2000 Irish, (which is a 4th part) besides those who have been received since the last june muster; which in all probability will make above that number more. That which adds to their fright is the report, which comes from considerable officers, that there will be another purge of the army after michaelmas, and that by christmas day there shall not be an Englishman left in it. When men are reasoned out of these fancies, which it is not hard to do by telling them, that by the times mentioned they will find the falsehood of those suggestions, and that your majesty will be served equally and indifferently by all your subjects; the answer is, why should we not believe what the officers say themselves? especially, when we see whole companies disbanded together, and the men plainly told, if they would keep any of their religion, they would not discharge them. When we see, say they, all our countrymen disarmed, and that the arms and the power are in the hands of the Irish, how can we forget the barbarous murders committed on us by their fathers? and, when we are told plainly, that we have no right to our estates, what violence may we not expect from those, who have

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now power to take what they think their own, and which they have been so long injuriously kept out of? The other causes given for their fears are the Irish maintaining, that there was no rebellion in 1641; which may occasion warm debates: that all grants made by the late king, not in pursuance of the acts of settlement, and all provisos in the acts, whereby estates are granted to any persons, not directly according to the king's declaration, (which was the ground of the settlement) were a surprise upon his majesty, and are void; which will leave all, who have purchased under those grants or provisos, to the wide world. The old proprietors have in several places forbud the tenants paying their rents to their present landlords; which, though perhaps the landlord (when he hears it) is wiser than to be much startled at it, yet it makes the tenant raise what money he can; for, when he finds his landlord's title questioned, he thinks, the best thing he can do for himself is to secure his own stock, and put what money he can make into his pocket: and thus many of that sort of men are withdrawn, who were the great improvers of the country.

The roman catholick clergy in several places have forbud the people paying their tithes to the protestant ministers; of which I have had several complaints upon oath sent to me out of the countries; which I have hitherto suppressed, and only acquainted some of the roman catholick bishops therewith, who do not approve of any such proceedings, and have promised me to reprove those priests, who do things for which they have no orders. I do not tell your majesty these things, as fears and apprehensions of my own, for I cannot have them. And, by what

what your majesty has been pleased to write to me, as well as by what you said to me before I left England, I know, there is not the least ground for any of these apprehensions ; and I know, it is my duty to decry and discredit them ; which, I am sure, I do, and ever will do to the utmost : but I think it my duty likewise to acquaint your majesty with them, that you may be truly informed of the ground of your people's fears ; whereby you will best judge, whether they are worthy your taking notice of, and what remedies to direct to be applied. It may not be amiss here to let your majesty know, that once in the king your brother's time, upon a representation made to him from hence, that people were afraid the acts of settlement would be shaken, because of some liberty his majesty had granted to roman catholick natives to live and purchase in corporation towns, which was said to be an infringement of those acts, his majesty was pleased by his letter to order his lieutenant here to issue out a proclamation to quiet the minds of his subjects in that particular ; a copy whereof I have sent to my lord president, and am humbly of opinion, it would have a great effect towards composing the minds of men at this time ; which is entirely submitted to your majesty's judgment. I can with assurance say, what I have often declared of your majesty's gracious resolutions to preserve the acts of settlement did satisfy all people, even the catholicks, who had a mind to thrive, and to have their country settled, as well as the others, till some men, who are in places of trust, by their actions and words were thought to know more of your majesty's mind than I do. I do most humbly implore your majesty's leave to beg of you, that, whilst

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you do me the honour to repose any trust in me, you would vouchsafe to let me know your pleasure. Sir, I can say, I never hesitated at any of your commands; and can give an effectual account of all, I have received from you since my being here. I have never offered your majesty my thoughts in what I have presumed in my letters to say to you, but it has been with perfect submission to your royal judgment, without so much as mentioning them to any one else: and what representations or informations I have laid before you of matters of fact have been with the exactest truth, without partiality, or upon hearsays. If your majesty shall please to condescend to let me know, what you would have done in any thing; what proportion of natives you will have in your army here; if all, and no English; when I know your pleasure, sir, my busines shall be to execute your commands to the satisfaction of your people; which, I am sure, you will be better pleased with, than that they should be frightened with the apprehensions of things, which your majesty does not intend to have done. It is a great opinion, sir, among some men, (who may be better informed, if they please) and they take the liberty to say, that your majesty believes it, that the gross of the English in this kingdom are fanaticks, of Cromwell's brood, and the offspring of those, who served in the rebellion against your sacred father; which, I will presume to say, is a very great mistake. As little as I may be thought to understand Ireland, I will undertake to make it appear, whenever your majesty shall command me, that there are very few of the original soldiers and adventurers now left, or of their descendants: of the latter not 20 families, and

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no great number of the former. But the generality of those 2 great interests sold their lots; many of them to honest men, who upon the king's restoration brought with them out of England to lay out here that little, which remained of their fortunes, after their families were ruined for their loyalty; and many of them to a new sort of people, who are always to be found, when fortunes are to be made, and who never had any thing to do in the rebellions. Of these men, and of those called the 49 interest, who were by all accounted loyal, and of old English planters in queen Elizabeth's time, and since before 1640, does the bulk of the English interest and inhabitants consist: these men carry on six parts of seven of the trade of this kingdom. And I must be very injurious to them, and not inform your majesty truly of the state of things here, if I do not tell you, that generally speaking they are of the church of England by constant practice, and not by a late going to church only: and I must further say, that in my life I never met with people fuller of duty to your majesty, nor more desirous of opportunities to manifest their loyalty. I have said nothing of the Scotch, because I am not yet so well informed of them, as I will speedily be. I most humbly beg your majesty's pardon for this long letter; which is only for your information: and I beseech you to believe, when I know your pleasure, your commands shall no where meet with a more punctual observance, than from,

Sir,

Your &c.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord,

Chapel Izod, Aug. 14. 1686.

YESTERDAY we had our consultation: there were present my lord chancellor, my lord Tyrconnel, major general Macarty, my lord chief justice Keating, Mr. baron Rice, Mr. solicitor general, colonel R. Hamilton, and Mr. Nangle. Though we were three hours together, I cannot undertake to give your lordship an account of the result; for, in truth, we came to none. My lord Tyrconnel had promised 3 weeks since, that Mr. Nangle should bring his notions in writing; which I should have been very glad of, that we might have had some particulars to have debated upon; but none appeared, Mr. Nangle saying, he had drawn up nothing, and that many things were to be considered of, before matters could be put into writing: but he and Mr. baron Rice were both of opinion, that a commission would do nothing, and bring in a very small sum of money, if any; but would confirm those estates, which ought not to be confirmed. My lord Tyrconnel and the major general closed with that opinion with much vehemence; the first wondering, with expressions, which had better been forborn, that such a thing should be mentioned to the king. Some men would have nothing told, but by themselves: whereas I wish, the king knew every thing that is true; and then, I am sure, he knows best what to direct, which will be always obeyed by me; nor shall I be one jot concerned, if another man's opinion or information be taken, as well as mine, provided it be examined, which is

is truth, or who is in the right ; for all men may mistake, and I am sure, we ought all to intend the same thing, the serving the king and settling this poor country. My lord chief justice Keating said, he was of opinion, as circumstances were, when he gave me the paper which I transmitted to the king, that a commission would raise a very considerable sum of money ; and, if that paper were considered, it would appear, he likewise proposed a parliament to confirm the proceedings of that commission, who would give the king a further considerable supply. I need mention no more of that paper, because your lordship has it by you : but my lord chief justice said, though he thought he had made it clear in his said paper, that it would be the interest of almost every man to come in, and take out a confirmation under the commission, which most of the roman catholicks had as much need of as others ; yet he was now against a commission, because he saw, those honourable persons present would use their endeavours to dissuade people from coming in. It was then moved to know, what consideration should be had of those persons, who had purchased any of those estates ; which, Mr. baron Rice said, ought not to be confirmed : it was answered, the particular circumstances of such cases must be considered. It was then asked, whether it could be imagined, that a commission would raise near such a sum, as would satisfy those, for whom the king was bound in honour and conscience to provide ? The answer was, that nobody could make a certain computation of what would arise from a commission, if it should be thought fit to proceed that way ; nor could any body guess, what sum would satisfy, except the number and qualifications.

qualifications of the persons were known, who were to be provided for. My lord Tyrconnel said, very few of the persons mentioned in the acts were yet taken care of: my lord chief justice Keating replied, that he had offered him several times to make it appear to him, that there were very few of those persons unprovided for. In a word, as I told your lordship at the first, we came to no resolution; Mr. baron Rice, and Mr. Nangle, and those of their opinions declaring, that they thought, nothing ought to be done, but by parliament. But for the time of calling a parliament very little was said; and, I believe, men will be very much divided about that: and, with humble submission, that matter cannot be too well considered, before it be resolved. If I may be allowed to make any judgment upon this whole consultation, and from the discourses I have had at other times with some of these persons, I must needs say, that I do not think, they design to have the present settlements confirmed, but on the contrary quite shaken; that is, that all provisos in the acts of settlement and explanation, whereby estates are settled upon any persons not directly pursuant to the king's declaration, (which was the ground of those acts) shall be liable to a new inquisition: that all lands by the acts of settlement were vested in the late king, as a royal trustee, and that therefore all subsequent grants made by his majesty, not in pursuance of the acts, must be made void; though there are good opinions, that the king might make those grants by law, and that men have purchased, and made settlements under them. Your lordship will easily perceive from hence, how loose some men would have things here; which, if permitted, must put a stop to

to the improvements of the country, and consequently to the growing trade of it. What designs some men have by ravelling into all again is not hard to divine: for my part, I can have no end nor interest, (nor am like ever to have any in this country) but to inform his majesty of the whole truth, as far as I know, that he may be the better able to examine into all, and then to obey what commands he sends me; which I humbly beseech your lordship to lay before the king, and to believe, that I am with all possible respect,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's &c.

To the Lord T R E A S U R E R.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 14. 1686.

YESTERDAY we had our great consultation, upon which we came to no resolution. It would be tedious to go about to tell you all the interlocutory discourses, who said this, and who replied so; which possibly I might mistake in writing upon my memory; but I have given an account of the substance of it to my lord president, to which I refer you. And, in that, I am sure, I am not mistaken; nor in the opinion I have given of what, I believe, some men intend; which they do plainly own in their discourses, as if they were sure of settling every thing, as they have a mind to: and for ought I know they may prevail. All I contend for (and I am confident, it is honest so to do) is, that the king may know the truth of all sides; and then his pleasure must deter-

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mine all our world. As it is not likely, that any man can know the truth, where many parties are concerned, without hearing them all, so, I doubt not, but his majesty will do in what concerns his subjects of this country, where there are so many different interests and parties; who must be all regarded in some measure or other, if the king will have them live, and be useful to him here. But I do assure you, truth, even in bare matter of fact, will never be known from my lord Tyrconnel; which, you may think, I say in anger, but seriously I do not. It is impossible you can believe, except you found it, as we do here, how wonderfully false he is in almost every thing he says. What he desires to be done one day, or avers he has done, he will as positively deny another, though witnessess can prove him in the wrong; nay, though sometimes his own hand is shewed against him: really his passion, and his rage (we know not for what) makes him forget what he says and does; and, when he is convinced, that he is in the wrong, he is then in such a fury, that the like is not usual. Yesterday, at the consultation, he wondered, that I should move for such a commission, and that my lord chancellor, and my lord chief justice Keating should give their opinions in it; and this in a more magisterial way, than you can imagine. He was answered without passion, (besides being told the true history of the matter) that certainly a lord lieutenant might propose what he thought fit to the king; which his majesty might quash, or order to be further considered of, as he pleased; but surely his lieutenant was not to be reproved by any, but the king himself, or by his command: and he found, his temper was not approved of.

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This morning I had a letter from my lord chief justice K—; which I think so material, that I send you a copy of it: I should think, you may do well to produce it. What he means by declaring his sense against a commission only is, that he would have a parliament follow to confirm their proceedings. Indeed I could wish, his paper were read, and considered; for I have some reason to imagine, that it may not have been read to the king, or even by my lord president; which, if true, is a little hard. A great friend of lord Tyrconnel's told a friend of mine the other day over a bottle, that the business which angered my lord Tyrconnel so much was, that he was not in the government; that he would never leave, till he got me out, not doubting, but he should then be the man. I never knew, I stood so much in any man's way, before: it is very probable, if his invention is believed, (and he thinks, he ought to be believed in all he says without enquiry.) he may get the better of me. I was never given to contention; but I know, the king is just, and I will ever submit with cheerfulness to what he determines concerning me. If I should be continued, or, if I should be recalled, and this great lord not succeed me, he will be mad.

You will think perhaps by the enclosed copy, that I have written very plainly to the king: in good earnest I think it high time to do so; and then I cannot be blamed hereafter for not informing truly, when most of the trading men are gone. I confess, I push to know, what his majesty would have done; which, I should be very glad, he would tell me; then I should know what to think of: but really to be told, that my lord Tyrconnel has no or-

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ders to do any thing, but what I give him, (and I give him all I am directed to give him) and for him to give directions, which I do not know of, as if he had some secret instructions from the king, and which yet he will not own, makes me make a strange figure: and perhaps I shall be the worse thought of hereafter for bearing, what I should not, nor would, but that I have no mind to do any thing, which may in any manner displease the king. And that consideration alone has, I am confident, kept him from being affronted; and in time men will be weary of being abused by him. God keep you and all yours.

August the 16th.

Finding the packet not yet gone off, I think it fit to tell you, that my lord Tyrconnel has ordered a vessel to be ready for him at an hour's warning; and he intends to be gone this week. I am now assured, Mr. Nangle goes with him; which I have reason to believe from what I have by a sure hand, that it is to make projects for bills; and, by the discourses he and his friends make here, they are such, as will turn this kingdom topsy-turvy. I hope, you will take care, he may give in his papers in writing; and that they may be sent over to me: an answer, or concurrence shall be quickly returned. But, if that will not do, pray let Mr. K— have them: he shall be enabled to answer them. I hope all the world may see, that I have no design, but to have the country settled for the king's service and honour: whereas those, who would have alterations, have designs to enrich themselves, and their friends, as I shall quickly make appear by undeniable proof. God keep you and all yours.

To the KING.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, Aug. 17. 1686.

THOUGH I have very lately given your majesty the trouble of a very long letter, yet I cannot let Mr. Savage return into England without presenting my most humble duty to your majesty by him. He has spent some months here, sir, and will be able to give your majesty some account both of things and persons from his own observations: he has no interest here, and therefore cannot be suspected of partiality to the country. For myself, I beseech your majesty to believe, that it is my whole business to serve you according to your commands; which will always appear upon the strictest examination. As I have been supported many years by your majesty's countenance, so, I am sure, I can never be happy without it. And I take more comfort and inward joy in pleasing you, than if you gave me millions; and I desire to be proud of nothing in this world, but of being, what I ought to be,

May it please your majesty,

Your Majesty's

most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,

CLARENDON.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 19. 1686. Thursday.

ON tuesday my lady Dorchester, and her company went hence in the yacht for Chester; so that you will quickly have her in London. On the same day the major general came to me, and told me, my lord Tyrconnel intended to have been in town today, but had for these 2 days been very much indisposed; and therefore desired me to excuse him till thursday, when he designed to be in town with his family in order to his journey for England. Yesterday I sent a gentleman with a compliment to see my lord Tyrconnel: he brought me word, he was something better, and hoped to be in town within a day or two. I carry this letter with me to Dublin, the packet being to go off with the first tide: if his lordship comes thither this morning, or any thing else happen, you shall have an account of it. The judges being returned, and several others being come to town, who had been at Downe-Patrick when tory Hamilton was killed, I have had some further account of that matter; which I think fit to give you, to make what use you think fit of. The first news brought into court, when the judges were sitting, (which was about 5 or 6 of clock at night) was, that Hamilton had killed Magennis; upon which judge Nugent clapped his hand, and said, by the grace of god we will try him, before we leave the town: but quickly after the truth was brought in, that Magennis had killed Hamilton; upon which the whole court was emptied in a minute, and only the judges and the prisoners

prisoners left in it. The judges adjourned the court till the morrow morning ; when they had nothing further to do, but to receive the presentments of the grand jury, and to dismiss the country. Of the disorder that was like to be in the town, and how all was pacified, you had an account in the letter, which the judges writ to me. An express was immediately sent upon this affair to my lord Tyrconnel ; who was then at Lisburne, about 20 miles from Downe. The next day, whilst the judges were yet in Downe, comes a letter from my lord Tyrconnel to the judges, telling them, that he had received an account of the killing of Hamilton ; that he believed, Magennis had done it in his own defence, and therefore that they might bail him ; and that very good bail would be given for his appearance the next assizes. But the judges thought not fit to bail him, in regard the coroner had not then sat upon the body ; and so, after they had given directions for a substantial and indifferent jury to be returned, they left the town, and went to new town, sir Robert Colvill's house ; where they lay that night, and whither the coroner's inquest was sent to them ; and from whence they writ to me. The next day the judges went to Carrickfergus ; where they received another letter from my lord Tyrconnel, giving many precedents of people's being bailed for murder ; and therefore pressed extremely, that Magennis might be bailed, setting forth the great merits of the man. The judges answered, that they could not do it, but by Habeas corpus ; which they could not grant at that place, not having the seal with them. I suppose, now the judges are returned, a Habeas corpus will be moved for ; which must be granted, and Magennis will be

be brought to Dublin: and then we shall see, what the judges will do upon the solicitation of a great man. All that I can say is, that, if I should interpose in a thing of this nature before trial, I think, I should shew my partiality, and do the king very ill service; and I am sure, my lord Tyrconnel ought to have applied to me, if to any in the case: but he thinks himself beyond controul, and does every day things, which I am very often fain to contradict; which, I am sure, is not the way to serve the king. He is of a very unhappy temper.

Dublin Castle.

Since my being here I am told, my lord Tyrconnel continues indisposed, and cannot be in town today. Just now are come in 3 packets from England, wherein I have your's of the 9th instant; which requires no further answer at present, than acknowledging. I am very glad, the waters agree so well with you, and that you are so near finishing your course. God keep you, and my sister, and all yours.

To Lord Dartmouth.

My Lord,

Chapel Izod, Aug. 19. 1686.

YOUR officer with your lordship's letter of the 14th past arrived here on the 5th instant. He has delivered me all the books and papers, which your lordship mentions in your letter; some of which I have already perused: but, I am sure, you do not expect, that I should so soon give your lordship an opinion upon any of the particulars.

ticulars. I do perfectly agree with your lordship, that it is most necessary, almost every one of the ports, and other inland places for magazines mentioned should be better fortified; it being a shame indeed to see, in what miserable condition some of them lie. I doubt, the reason, there was no more care taken of them in the time of former chief governors, was the want of money; for the charges upon the revenue did always come so very near the income, that really there was not sufficient left to make any the most necessary repairs upon the fortifications. I have some time since represented the charge upon the revenue at my coming hither; which is since much increased, and the revenue not augmented. I have again represented the whole, as my lord treasurer can inform you; and, if his majesty does not take it into his serious consideration, he will not be able to do more, than has hitherto been done. If the king could contrive it so, as to lay up 30000l. or 40000l. per annum of his revenue here, then he might be able in few years to put all the fortifications and magazines into the condition they ought to be, and every year to do something considerable; but god knows, whether you or I shall live to see that time. I will every week be writing something to your lordship, that so we may be ready, as far as we are able, to begin something in the spring, as your lordship wisheth. But in the mean time there are some things of immediate necessity to be done in some places, and some things desired by some of the governors; which I will give your lordship a particular account of in my next, that so, by looking upon the draughts you have before you, you will be able to tell me your thoughts thereof.

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And

And now to entertain you no longer upon this subject at present, I will say a few words to your lordship's upon what most immediately concerns us; that is, the present arming of the troops. When my lord Mountjoy went hence, I gave it him in charge to represent the pitiful condition both of the stores, and of the arms in use; which were so very bad, and all the fire arms of so many different bores, besides other defects, that it was necessary for the king's service, that his army here should be all new armed; and I desired your brother to represent the same thing to your lordship. A computation of what arms are necessary for the compleating all the forces here your lordship will find enclosed, and those which are new arms are marked in the margin: but though they are new, the officers do not like them, nor any of those which are in our stores; which, though they are returned serviceable by Mr. Phelipps and Mr. Povey, yet they are old arms, and many of them not good. The pikes, though they look fair, are many of them rotten, and break, when they come to be used at exercise; as the stocks of the muskets do likewise. In a word, the king will not be pleased to see any of his army here, when he sends for them over, (as he has spoken of) with the best arms I can furnish them with. I do intend very speedily to send an officer of the army, and an officer of the ordnance here to Chester, to choose out a quantity of the best arms there, and to bring them hither for present service, some of the horse having really no arms; of which your lordship shall have an account from me, as well as from your own officers. I intend likewise to send for 500 barrels of powder from Chester: we have not in the kingdom above 800 barrels,

barrels, and the expense is about 300 barrels a year. Me-thinks, your stores at Chester and Carlisle (if those are there, which are mentioned in the third column to be sent) are very small. Your lordship will find, there is no great difference between the account Phelipps and Povey took ; and that which the store-keepers here give me, that which I mentioned in my letter to your lordship, was rather to the king's advantage : but, as your lordship says, some little mistakes will happen in so great a work, though every body did their duty ; but they will be very small. Though I cannot say, we have any place here fit for a royal magazine, yet I will tell your lordship, that we have room for 10000 arms in the castle of Dublin, as bad a place as it is, and for 50000 at the new hospital ; and they should be as safe in both places, as in the tower of London : therefore, I beseech you, let not the want of a place keep us from having arms necessary for the army. I shall entertain your lordship again very speedily ; therefore I will trouble you no more at present, but with the assurance of my being with all possible respect and esteem,

My dear Lord,

Your Lordship's
most affectionate and most humble servant,

CLARENDRON. C. P. S.

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To Lord Sunderland.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 21. 1686.

WHERE your lordship's of the 7th instant had lain, I know not, but it came not to me, till yesterday, when we had letters of the 14th; and the letters of the 7th came to us just a week before. Your lordship is pleased to acknowledge the receipt of mine of the 11th, 20th, and 22d past: I hope, mine of the 6th of the last month was come likewise safe to you, there being something of business in it. I have written so fully to your lordship in my late letters, that I have the less to trouble you with now. All things are, thanks be to god, very quiet here; and will continue so, if all in employment do their duties. That which is most troublesome is, that the new men are yet sometimes irregular, and too often commit disorders; as particularly, 2 days since an Irish soldier killed an English one: the first is in prison for it, and will be prosecuted according to law. The doing justice equally and strictly will in a little time bring them into good discipline; especially, if the officers do their parts in discountenancing the disorders, which some of the new ones are sometimes a little backward in. And, if great men will concern themselves less in interposing with the ministers of justice to take bail in case of murder, it will contribute much to the quieting of things: for certainly, if a man have the misfortune to kill another, he may be contented to lie in prison, till he is tried; and the king's mercy may be extended to him after conviction, according to the merit of the person, or as

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as his circumstances shall prove hard and compassionate : whereas the interposition of great men make ordinary matters become national concerns ; which, I am sure, is not for the king's service.

My lord Gormanston was lately with me to tell me, that his cornet sir Nich. Atchinson, being lately married, and finding it inconvenient to be so much at his quarters as he ought to be upon the account of his private concerns, does desire the king's leave to quit his employment ; and my lord makes it his request, that he may have leave to quit it to Mr. Nich. Barnewell; nephew to my lord Barnewell, and my lord Gormanston's cousin german : sir Nich. Atchinson has likewise been with me, and joins in the same request. I am,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 22. 1686.

I know not how to leave off the custom of writing, though I have very little to say at this time ; and for possibly you may have a short letter, which I have often promised, but never performed. The only thing, I think, I have now to say, is to send you the copy of my lord president's last letter to me, and of my answer to him. We have since had 3 packets from England, but nothing from his lordship ; so that perhaps it is enough, that he has

has acknowledged my letters, and I am to expect no further answers to them ; which I am pretty well used to. However, I will continue my practice of representing ; which at one time or other will justify me. I wonder, there is not a committee appointed for the affairs of Ireland : it would ease my lord president, and the profitable part would still continue to him. I care not, who were of it : you would be one, and every thing would then be read. All that I desire in the world is, that all the truth might be known ; that, when things happen, which are not expected, (because the king believes, that those who inform him tell him the whole truth) the king may not say, I have not done my duty, because I did not acquaint him with those things, which then appear manifest : and, when the king has heard all, he will then best know, what, and how to direct ; and god will govern the world as he pleafeth.

My lord Tyrconnel has been at his own house, and not in town since the consultation, which was friday was fennight. It is said, he has been much indisposed ; and I know, people have been to visit him, but refused to see him with this excuse, that he was very ill : and yet he rides abroad every day. Some say, he had lately an express out of England, which has much angered him by the letters he brought. I am told, he will be in town tomorrow in expectation of the return of the yacht, (which went on tuesday to Chester with my lady Dorchester) and that he will immediately imbark for England. We take it for granted here, that Mr. Bellasis, nephew and heir to my lord Faulkenberg, is killed before Buda ; which you must needs know better than we.

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He had a company lately given him in the regiment of guards here: if he be dead, pray do me the favour to use your interest to get the company for sir Thomas Fotherly; who, you know, came over with me. He is a very honest man, and a man of honour, and every way fit for it. I must put you in mind of sending me the directions, you once mentioned, for paying the arrear due to the yacht. I offer it to you, whether it were not as well to be paid out of the tobacco money, as out of the 30000l, which goes for England: but which you please, so it be done; for in good earnest the poor men are in grievous want, and the clamour of their creditors grows very great. Among other recommendations I have lately sent you, I have written a letter to you by my lord Ikerine; who goes over, as he says, to see what he can get upon his petition, which you referred to me; but perhaps he has some other designs in his head: one can scarce believe any thing that sort of people say. He is wonderfully pressing, as all his countrymen are, and think, they are injured, if they have not all they desire. I have by this post writ you a long letter to the treasury of the state of the revenue: I perceive, (even by my lord Tyrconnel) there is a design of laying some more men aside, and giving them pensions; which, I hope, you will hinder, when you see how the revenue is charged. God almighty keep you and yours. I suppose, Mr. K—— shews you what I write to him; and therefore I need not repeat any thing here.

LETTERS OF

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 24. 1686.

I FIND, you have had some trouble from the two corporations of Abingdon and Reading upon my account: but you promised me to take them into your protection, when I came away; and I have letters from both of them acknowledging the great countenance and favours they have received from you, which, I am sure, you will not repent; for, though there are too many factious people in those towns, yet the magistracy are very honest and loyal, and you may govern them as you have a mind to in all things relating to the king's service. I do, in their names and my own, thank you for your kindness to them, and particularly for getting the assizes to be kept at Abingdon; which town hath lately made an application to you to help them to a good minister. I doubt not, but you will procure a prudent, as well as good man to be amongst them; for a good minister, and one who will live well with them, will contribute more towards the making such a town what it ought to be, than any one thing else can do: the living is in the king's gift, but it is a very small one. I got it for the last man, when you were a commissioner in ecclesiasticks, and I got the late man at the recommendation of the bishop of Oxford; and the town at my request gave him 20l, or 30l. a year more than was usual: and I doubt not, they will continue (upon your letter) all they gave the last man; for in truth the living of itself is so very inconsiderable, that without some encouragement it will be impossible to get a tole-

a tolerable man to live there. It were to be wished, that you could get somebody thither, who has a sine-cure, or a prebend somewhere, that he might not be compelled to humour the factions for his bread: such a corporation ought to be provided with a good minister.

I have lately had a letter from the town of Reading to acquaint me with the choice of a new recorder there, in the place of sir Tho. Holt deceased. The person whom they have chosen, Mr. Jo. Dalby, is a very honest and ingenious young man, and fit for the place: his father was of eminent loyalty, and as wise a man, as I have known, of his rank. I beg therefore, you will obtain his election to be approved of by his majesty; as likewise, that the mayor elect, Mr. Giles Pocock, may be approved of by his majesty: he is a marvellous honest and discreet man, and served mayor once before in my time. You see, (for I send you their letter) they desire my advice, whom to choose for their parliament man: I would not lose the liberty they are willing to give me; and therefore I wish, you would recommend Mr. Geo. Blagrave, who is a very honest man, and has a good estate near the town, to which his family have been great benefactors. There may be some objections against his brother John, but there can be none against George; who was as eminent a tory, as the other was thought to be a whig: William Aldworth will give you the best informations of that place, and people. By bringing in G. Bl— you will be able to keep out both sir William Rich, and sir H. Vane; neither of whom are good. I have written an answer to their town to thank them for their civil letter; but I have

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said nothing of a parliament man, but that you would advise them whom to choose.

We had today another conference, by the desire of my lord Tyrconnel, who was with me yesterday in the evening: but, though it lasted 3 hours, it was to as little purpose, as any of the former. And, when your discourse with Mr. Nangle (who, it cannot be denied, is a very able man, and therefore the more to be watched) you will find, they intend nothing but to set this kingdom loose again: they will pretend to confirm the settlement, but with so many exceptions and alterations, as will in truth overthrow it. Wherefore I still pres^s, that whatever papers he gives in may be transmitted to me. I must need say, my lord chief justice K—, and Mr. solicitor, and my lord chancellor carry themselves with great courage, and like honest men: they have infinitely the better of the argument, and Mr. Nangle cannot answer them, nay, yields to what they say; and, if he does so, I need not fay any thing of judge Nugent, or baron Rice; who, god knows, are weak to Baltazar.

Mr. Trumbull, the accomptant general, has been very ill of a fever these 8 days past; and I fear, he will not recover. If he dies, we shall lose a most admirable knowing officer, as well as an exact honest man. Pray, be not engaged for a successor, till you hear again from me: I have nobody yet fixed in my thoughts, nor have any thoughts, but what shall be best for the king's service. I wished, Trumbull had had the office to himself for his encouragement; for the benefit he had was infinitely too small, considering the pains he took, and must take to do his duty; for he was a true drudge, and deserved a better

better employment. His colleague, Mr. Bonnell, who is joined in the patent with him, is an honest man, and, I hear, of deserving parents; but in good earnest he is no more fit for that place, than I am; and, if it should rest upon him, I am sure, the king must suffer, for it is an office of great trust and importance: I shall say no more at present. God keep you, and my sister, and all yours.

To the KING.

Sir,

Chapel Izod, Aug. 26. 1686.

THIS morning my lord Tyrconnel imbarkeed for England, and, as he says himself, intends to make representations to your majesty of some persons, which will not be to their advantage: possibly I may be in the number; for every man is to be well, or ill thought of, as they agree with him. I must confess, I have not been of his mind in some things: but, I am sure, your majesty will not condemn any man unheard; and so long I am safe. I gave my lord Tyrconnel all the powers your majesty commanded, and never interposed in his execution of them, whatever the methods were, which he took therein. Indeed I have not thought fit to put meanings upon your majesty's letters, which the sense of them will not bear; and which he himself upon debate has been convinced of, though I cannot say, he has been satisfied. I hope your majesty believes, I have no will, but to please and obey you; and, when you know every thing here, whatever commands you send me shall be observed punctually: and I hope, it shall not be interpreted disobedience,

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dience, when I do not comply with what another man says is your pleasure, if he shews no authority for it, and I have no commands from your majesty. Sir, if I know my own heart, I do not desire to live longer, than your majesty finds me to be,

Sir,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,
CLARENDON.

To the Queen.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 26. 1686.

IN obedience to your majesty's commands of writing freely to you, when I thought it needful; I most humbly presume to do it at this time, and to cast myself at your majesty's feet. I do assure your majesty, I have obeyed every one of the commands I have had the honour to receive from his majesty since my being here; of which I can give a very effectual account upon occasion. I am sure, I make it my whole business to inform the king of every particular, both as to things and persons; and, when his majesty knows all, (and I would to god, he knew all that I say, and all that is said to me) his orders and commands shall punctually be obeyed by me: but, madam, though all this be true, and, I am confident, will not be denied by any; yet there are people, who are not satisfied, that I do not believe they know the king's mind, when they will not shew me authority for it. My lord Tyrconnel has alarmed some people with telling them, how

how he will represent them to the king. Whether they will deserve his majesty's displeasure will be found upon examination; but in truth by his own discourse one would almost believe, he could get every body, whom he does not like, turned out of his majesty's service; which, I confess, I could not but smile at, when I heard him. I have had the luck to differ with him in some things; which has displeased him: so possibly I may be in the bundle of the black characters, which are carried over. But, as long as I am under your majesty's protection, I am sure, whatever any one shall say to my prejudice will be fully examined, before it makes any impression in you: and I had rather be dead, than to lose your favour, or commit a fault towards either of your majesties; which I will never be found guilty of. I gave my lord Tyrconnel the orders the king commanded me to give him, and I never interposed in his execution of them. I never complained of any thing, till I had first obeyed his majesty's commands; which shall always be my first busines: but then I hope, you majesty will give me leave with all humility to make my moan to you, that the king would not be pleased to let me do, what he had a mind to have done in his army. I would have done all that is now done, by the assistance of the same persons who have done it; and I am sure, I should have performed it more to the satisfaction of his subjects; which will always be for his majesty's service. There is nothing, madam, makes any thing difficult in the king's busines, but the not knowing perfectly his majesty's mind; and for some to pretend to know it, when he who is trusted in the government does not know it, makes things more uneasy than they would otherwise.

otherwise be. I would therefore humbly beseech your majesty to be graciously pleased to be a means, that I may know what the king would have done ; and, if it be not performed as he directs, and as he would have it, then let me be blamed. I do not love to complain of any body ; but, when it is in order to the king's service, I hope, your majesty will forgive me, and let it not be to my prejudice. If your majesty could imagine, how little, and how seldom I hear from the court, I am sure, you would pity me. I write very constantly to my lord president, but I have had but 3 letters from him these 3 months ; which if your majesty saw, you would not wonder, I think myself in the dark. But I most humbly beg your majesty's pardon for saying thus much, and for this great presumption in tireing your majesty with so long a letter in making my moan to you : but the same goodness, which encourages me to do it, will, I doubt not, be graciously pleased to forgive what is done purely with an intention to make me the more able to serve the king ; which, as it ever has been, so it ever shall be the busines of my life. I beseech your majesty to order some of my friends to let me know, that your majesty is not displeased with me : that you are so, some would have me believe. I do not know, that I have done any thing to deserve your anger, and I am sure, I never will ; nor do I desire any greater comfort in this world, than your good opinion ; which I will by all means possible study to preserve, as becomes,

Madam,

Your Majesty's
most dutiful and most obedient subject and servant,

CLARENDON,

To the Lord Treasurer.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 26. 1686.

THIS day about noon my lord Tyrconnel embarked for Chester. I have written by this packet at large to my lord president upon several things; whereby you will see as full an account, as I can give you, of our last conference: and so there is an end of that matter, till we have some new notions from Mr. Nangle; which, I assure you, are but notions; for he cannot support (though he is an able man) what he asserts against my lord chief justice K—, and Mr. solicitor; nay, he yields and submits to the answers they and my lord chancellor make. Well, I cannot yet help being sanguine in the affairs of this kingdom; for, if the king will but hear his English subjects, and consider, what he did believe when I left England, that the contest here is not about religion, but between English and Irish, which is the truth, all will do well: if not, god's will be done; I shall have the comfort of having done my duty. Perhaps you may think, I have written too freely and plainly of my lord Tyrconnel; but really it is time: and the manner of bailing Magennis makes more discourse, and breeds more ill blood, than you can imagine, at a time when all uniting remedies ought to be applied. I dare say, such a thing would not have been endured in England from the greatest nobleman; and I think it very necessary, the king should know of such irregularities, as are committed here. He will have his oar in every boat: he has summoned people before him in the king's name, by writing under his hand

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in the most ridiculous manner imaginable ; which I could not have believed, if I had not seen the papers myself, and taken copies of them, and of his letters to corporations, recommending men to the magistracy, which I will transmit in proper place. I have written to the king and queen, which I send you here enclosed : if you do not approve them, burn them ; if you do, pray seal them, and let them be delivered. If you have no mind to deliver them yourself, let Mr. Keightley do it, as if they were sent to him. My lord Tyrconnel was so ingenuous as to tell my lord chancellor, that they had writ to the king, that he was not so well served by him, as he expected. It is a fine pass we are come to, when men in such stations must be represented according to other men's fancies : and I doubt not, but he has his informations to give of me too ; but my hope is, we are not to be tried and condemned by fancy. God almighty keep you, and my sister, and all yours.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord, Chapel Izod, Aug. 26. 1686.

IN mine of the 14th instant I gave your lordship an account of the consultation I had the day before with my lord Tyrconnel, &c. together with my opinion thereupon; in which, I doubt, I shall prove to be in the right. On monday in the evening my lord Tyrconnel was with me, and desired, I would appoint the same company to meet again the next day; that he thought, something might be offered, which would give satisfaction,

pursuant to the king's commands signified in your lordship's of the 14th of june. Accordingly on tuesday we met, and after much discourse, as loose, and as far from coming to a conclusion, as at our former conference, it was proposed, that an act of parliament should pass to give the king a considerable sum of money ; whereby his majesty might relieve those persons, who by the acts of settlement and explanation were intended to be provided for ; and that the money so raised should be given to those, who ought to be reprised with other lands of equal value, worth and purchase ; and so the old proprietors should come into their estates again, as by the acts was intended, when the present possessors were so reprised, as aforesaid : but neither the quantity of how much money would be necessary, nor the number of the persons, which ought to be relieved, was agreed upon ; only it was mentioned, that in laying the tax there might be different proportions ; that all, who claim under the acts, should pay after one rate ; that those, who have grants from the late king, (whereby, it is said, the stock is lessened) should pay more, and that all, even the old innocent proprietors, both English and Irish, (who had no benefit by the acts) should pay something.

To make this matter a little plainer to your lordship you will be pleased to observe, that by the acts several persons are restored to their estates, after those in possession are first reprised with lands of equal value, worth and purchase ; they would have been reprised, if the stock of lands had not failed : so that, after the time for executing the acts by commissioners was expired, (and none but those commissioners could grant reprisals, if there had

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been lands) the people in possession fell to plant, and improve, and have settled their estates. Now, whether these persons thus settled, and who by the law were to be re-prised in land of equal value, worth and purchase, shall be now compelled (perhaps the children and widows of many of them) to part with their possessions for a sum of money, (though to the value of the land) or, whether the people, who ought to be relieved, and who have been without land these 30 years, may not now be contented with money to the value of what their lands are worth, will be the question. This being the case, I shall take the liberty to offer my opinion with all possible submission; which is, that, if his majesty, when he shall think it convenient to call a parliament, (the time whereof cannot be too well considered) shall be pleased to resolve to confirm all possessions, (which are settled by the acts) no doubt a very considerable sum of money will be given to the king to obtain a lasting settlement, if possessions are confirmed in the same act, which gives the money; and the king may then distribute the money to such persons, and in such proportions, as he shall think fit: but, if the intentions be to alter the possessions, and to gratify the present proprietors, who have enjoyed the lands so many years, with money, I am humbly of opinion, that such an act will not pass, and that it will be thought an invasion upon the settlement; and that, when it is broken in one particular, it may be in another, and so to the end. I beseech your lordship to take notice, that this whole matter in debate ariseth upon a letter of mine to the king, dated the 17th of April last; wherein my proposal was, that, if his majesty should think fit to issue another commission

mission of grace to confirm men in their estates, I was of opinion, it would bring in a vast sum of money; and, upon his majesty's command to consider further of the matter with my lord chancellor, and such other persons as I thought fit, I transmitted their opinions; which agreed with mine in substance, and with whom I had not conferred, till I had the king's direction so to do. I beg leave to say, that I was, and still am of opinion, that a commission to confirm possessions with good instructions to the commissioners, in such manner, and with such qualifications as are expressed in the papers I sent over, would raise a very great sum of money, if it were declared in the commission, that the proceedings thereupon should be afterwards ratified by act of parliament: and, with submission, it would have been the most equal way; for, when all men had been upon one foot, the parliament would still give a very considerable sum for confirmation; but I am never fond of my own proposal, for that reason only. And I have therefore changed my opinion, and am now against a commission, because my lord Tyrconnel, and the Irish catholicks of the king's council (though many of the natives have as much need of confirmation as others) will oppose and obstruct it; which will render a commission ineffectual, and make it bring in very little; and my business is to endeavour all that lies in me the settlement of the country, and to get the king money, wherewith to gratify those who deserve his favour; which, I fear, will not be easy to do, if possessions are disturbed. My lord Tyrconnel embarked this day for Chester: Mr. Nangle the counsellor is gone over with him. The town is much alarmed at his going, and think

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from the discourses some of the natives give out, that he is gone over to make proposals for new settlements, and for a parliament; but I do not mind common talks, though sometimes they prove true. Mr. Nangle told me, when he took his leave of me, which was yesterday, and when he first told me of his going over, that he went upon his private account for his health, and not at all upon any thing relating to the publick, whatever the talk of the town was: if it prove otherwise, I doubt not, but the king will direct, whatever proposals or papers he shall give in may be transmitted over, that people of other interests may be heard to them; which is the best way of coming to an amicable composure. There is one thing more I think fit to acquaint your lordship with. I have in my former letters told your lordship all I knew of the killing captain Hamilton: judge Nugent has since his coming to town, upon the pressing letters of my lord Tyrconnel, thought fit to bail Magennis; which gives too much occasion of discourse: the judge himself told me, that my lord Tyrconnel had writ to him, that he had examined the busines, and found it fit to bail him. I confess, my lord, for a man in my lord Tyrconnel's station to meddle in a thing of this nature, wherein he is not concerned, and to talk of examining a matter 20 miles distant from the place where the fact was committed, which the coroner's inquest had found murder, does give too much countenance to those who have a mind to say, there is too much interposition used by great men in the course of justice, which ought to be uninterrupted. I only tell you this particular, that the king may know every thing which happens here; which, I am sure, he does.

does from your lordship. I long for answers from your lordship to several particulars in my former letters. I am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Duke of ORMOND.

My Lord,

Chapel Izod, Aug. 28. 1686.

I HAVE received the honour of your grace's letter of the 3d instant; and lately your other of the 16th was given me by the earl of West-Meath, whom I shall be very ready to serve, as I shall every body, who is related to, or hath dependance upon your grace, to the utmost of my power. My lord Tyrconnel went for England on thursday, and Mr. Nangle the counsellor is gone with him; whom your grace knows, better than I, to be a very able man in his profession: but, notwithstanding all the moderation he was formerly thought master of, I am deceived, (and I shall be glad to be so) if he be not as earnest as any of his countrymen for breaking the acts of settlement; that is, for putting such explanations upon them by a new law, as will quite unsettle the kingdom. The last proposition my lord Tyrconnel made, and it was seconded and vehemently enforced by Mr. Nangle, was, that a sum of money should be given to the king by parliament, wherewith those English should be satisfied, who ought to leave the lands they are now possessed of, when they

they are reprised with other lands of equal value, worth and purchase; that is, that the ancient proprietors, who by the acts were intended to be restored to their estates after the present possessors were first reprised, should now be put into possession of their old estates, and that the present possessors, who by the laws expressly are to be reprised with lands of equal value, worth and purchase, shall be compelled to take money after so many years quiet enjoyment, and such variety of settlements, deaths, marriages, and other alienations as have happened. Your grace knows, the reason, why those men were not reprised, nor the others restored, was, because the stock of lands failed: certainly, if money can be got by parliament, as I believe it may, to purchase the confirming and quieting possessions, (which will be the only motive to induce men to give liberally) the best way will be to gratify those men, who were intended to be restored after previous reprisals, with money, in such proportion as the king shall think fit. But, with submission, the time of calling a parliament, and the circumstances of the kingdom ought to be very well considered. My lord treasurer will give your grace an account of all the consultations I have had with my lord Tyrconnel and others about a commission of grace; in which I humbly beg you will inform yourself, and particularly that you will well consider my lord chief justice Keating's paper; which, I doubt, has scarce been thought of in England: he is an able man, and very honest, and so looked upon generally by all men. I hope, your grace will concern yourself in the affairs of this country, where your interest is so great. I perceive, they will speedily come upon the tapis in England;

HENRY EARL OF CLARENDON. 447

land; and I have reason to believe, that Mr. Nangle is carried over in order thereunto, though he assured me, he went only upon the account of his health, and not at all upon any thing relating to the publick. If he gives in any papers or proposals relating to the settlements, which is what all men look after, I hope, they will be (by your grace's interposition) transmitted hither, where other persons concerned may be heard. I beseech your grace to believe, that I am,

My Lord,

Your Grace's
most obedient and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, Aug. 31. 1686.

THIS letter will now welcome you from Tunbridge. I give god thanks, the waters have done so well with you, and that my sister has obtained so great an amendment of health by them: god grant, she may be careful enough of herself not to lose it again in the winter. I have written my mind to you freely about the accomptant general's place; and I have no end, but an ambition to put in the man, that can be found the best qualified for the king's service. It is a place of very great trust, though he does not touch money; and therefore it is of absolute necessity, he should be very honest: but honesty alone is not sufficient, without it be accompanied with ability; he must be a perfect accomptant. Yester-
day.

day the commissioners of the revenue brought me a petition from Mr. Bonnell (the surviving patentee) to them, together with a representation thereupon to me, which I herewith transmit to you. I can say nothing of Mr. Bonnell's father's merit, but what I have from report, nor of the trust pretended to have been in Dr. Wood, the former patentee. This gentleman was bred by secretary Jenkins: he is an ingenious man, about 30 years of age, but in good earnest not qualified alone for such an employment. And I must needs say, if another good man be joined equally in the patent, (as able a man as Mr. Trumbull was) the salary (which is but 400l. per annum for themselves and clerks) is much too small; for they kept five clerks, and then they had not much to divide between themselves; which, I am afraid, made Trumbull drudge too much. But I have said enough of this matter; which though it be a treasury affair, I thought it more proper to speak of it in a private letter. The very beginning of next week I go to Kilkenny; where I intend to leave my wife, and to make a progress for 10 or 12 days into Munster; which, I am sure, shall be to the king's advantage: and it will put a little life into poor people in those parts; for it is my duty to assure all the king's subjects, that they are all equally under his majesty's protection; and that he will be served equally by them all, till the king himself makes the distinction, and gives me rules therein, which when he does, (between you and me) it will be fit for me to think a little. People now begin to talk what Mr. Nangle's business is in England: besides projects about new settlements, some say, it is to be made chief justice of the king's bench, in the room of sir

William

William Davys, who is now in England for his health, and is an honest discreet man, and was hurried into England, in the time of Oates's plot, for his duty to the king, and his steady asserting the duke of York's interest: others say, it is to be attorney general; if so, it will be a hard matter to persuade men the English interest shall be preserved, when an Irish roman catholick is attorney general. And some say, he is gone only to make propositions in order to a new settlement; and likewise to fix the reversing the outlawries, which is a great point indeed. And though there may be no great harm in gratifying the lords Gormanston and Ikerine, as I have heard they have ordered the case; yet, whatever Mr. Nangle may say, to do it generally will be of vast consequence; and the influence it will have upon the settlements ought to be very well considered, and other men, who are as conversant in the acts as Mr. Nangle, should at least be heard. Methinks the case of this kingdom should be made an affair of state, and thoroughly debated at the council board in England, which is a constituent part of the government of this kingdom; and, though possibly nothing that can be done or said will alter the measures, which some seem to have taken, yet I am still for every man in his station using all honest endeavours to have the truth known. Reason will have its weight, and England will at one time or other know the concern and interest it has in this kingdom.

On saturday my lord Burlington and Mr. Boyle arrived here: tomorrow they imbark for England. I send you here enclosed the copy of a letter, which was this day found at Christ Church: the original I have. I will not

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say

say any thing of the letter, as to the truth of it, because it is impossible to guess at the author; but it is most true, that there have been of late very private meetings here, at which the two lords mentioned in the letter to be gone for England were present, viz. my lord Tyrconnel and lord Ikerine; and, if one who was of the company may be believed, the methods of calling a parliament, and choosing the members, was a principal head of their debates: and at one of those consultations it was, that the resolution was taken of Mr. Nangle's going for England.

I have this day received yours of the 23d, and 24th instant, for which a thousand thanks: I will answer every paragraph of it in my next. God keep you, and my sister, and all yours.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord, Dublin Castle, Aug. 31. 1686.

SINCE my last, which was of the 26th, I have received your lordship's of the 21st instant; and by the packet yesterday came the commission for Mr. Matthew Ford, and some other commissions, which are disposed of as they are directed. I have given my lord Kinsale leave to go into England, before your lordship's letter came; and he went with my lord Tyrconnel, upon his assuring me of urgent occasions, which required his going over.

I would beg to know the king's pleasure concerning the chaplains of his army here. The regiments are at present all supplied by men put in by the several colonels, who always use to put in their chaplains: the day before
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my lord Tyrconnel went hence, he sent directions to the commissary general of the musters to admit three roman catholick priests, one to be chaplain to the regiment of guards, and the others to two other regiments. I would be glad to know the king's pleasure, whether those, who are already in, are to be superseded.

I have some reason to believe, that it is designed to make further changes amongst the officers of the army here, though it has not been thought fit to acquaint me therewith; which perhaps is a new practice, for some officers to meet and agree whom they will endeavour to have removed, and the general of the army no way consulted with: and I cannot believe, the king will approve of that method of proceeding; which must certainly render his chief governour very little in the opinion of those, who are to obey him. I still beg leave to say, that, if the king pleaseth to hear my opinion concerning any of his officers, it shall be given him with great faithfulness; and his majesty will not be the less informed thereby, and will still command what he thinks fit to have done.

I shall give your lordship no further trouble at present, but to acquaint you, that I am going to make a little progress into Munster for 12 or 14 days; whereby I shall be able to give a better account of those parts, when I have visited them myself. I am with very great respect,

My Lord,
Your Lordship's &c.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, Sept. 4. 1686.

IN my last, marked 59, I acknowledged the receipt of your's of the 23d past; which I am now to answer, and find, I have not much to reply, most of it being upon what I had writ to you upon an unpleasant subject; and upon which I have no mind to say any more, nor, if it were possible, to think any more. I am very glad, the king was satisfied with what I writ upon the midsummer quarter's revenue: I shall be very glad, if his majesty be not disappointed in his expectation, that in a little time men will come into their wits again, and trade will recover. I am sure, nothing shall be wanting on my part to encourage them; and I fancy, this little ramble I am going to take into the country will put a little life into them: and there is no doubt, all the jealousies would quickly disperse, if the king would make a publick declaration of what he would have; that is, how the army is to be modelled, what numbers of natives, and what of English are to be in it; for I must still say, people have a great mind to be quiet, and are as much disposed to duty and obedience, as is possible: but, if the whole army are to be Irish, which the new officers give publickly out, men's minds will not be so soon settled, as they would otherwise; and they will rather withdraw, than be in continual apprehension of the insolence of the natives; and nothing but time, and experience, that high words and threatenings can do no harm, and that irregular actions shall be punished, can allay their apprehensions, and compose

compose their minds. And this is the reason so many have put off their manufactures, and discharged their spinners and carders, who are now begging, that they may look on, and see, how the world goes. And, for Irishmen coming to trade here in the room of the English, I would be glad to see it. I have been told about four months since by a considerable man, that there were fourscore Irish merchants beyond sea, who would come all over, and bring (one with another) 20000l. a piece with them, and settle in several places of this kingdom, now they may have liberty like other men, and that I should have a list of them ; but I could never since have a sight of the list, nor is one of the men yet come over : for liberty and privileges like other men, the government was always so ready to encourage trade, that trading men, Irish, have always enjoyed the same freedom and security with the rest of his majesty's subjects, except the holding of offices, which they were not capable of till now ; nor are they suffered to have those advantages in other foreign countries. But alas ! whoever considers the trade of this kingdom will tell you, that 5 parts of 6 of it is carried on by commission : many men have made good estates by that way of dealing ; but few merchants, who trade upon their own accounts, think it worth their while to be here. Who does not know, that merchants will always follow their interest ? And they will not leave countries, where they are settled in their trade and thrive by it, nor bring their stocks into a country, (though their own) where they have no reason to think, they can employ them to so much advantage ; except the men have a mind to give over trade, and lay out their money upon land in their own.

own country ; which, I doubt, they will not be forward to do, where possessions are perpetually under question. But besides, it is known by their correspondents here, that several of the Irish merchants beyond sea, even those who are esteemed the most considerable, will not come hither. But I shall be very glad to be deceived herein, and by my consent any man, though a jew, who will bring money and live obediently to the laws, shall be welcome, and have all the encouragement and protection the government can give him. As to sir William Talbott's affair, I shall say nothing at present ; but expect, what your next letter will say further to me upon that subject : you will by the next receive another letter to you at the treasury, with my thoughts upon the management of that estate under sir William's care. I am as happy as I need to be, if the king thinks, I do my duty towards the allaying of jealousies, and the pacifying men's minds : I am sure, I will continue to do all I can therein, and to make men secure, they have no cause to be afraid. Let the success be what it will, I will do my duty : pray god, others may do so too. I only say, (which must be the burden of my song) why should not the chief governour be trusted with what measures the king has taken ? Certainly the concealing them from him is a new way of doing busines. I am very glad, the king is satisfied, that he is well served by the commissioners : really they do serve him very well ; but, I know, my lord Tyrconnel will do them all the mischief he can. As to my lord Longford's particular affair I have discoursed with him, and he is very sensible of Mr. Halfall's wanting his money ; which he is doing all he can to supply him with.

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He told me a long story of matters between him and Mr. Dan. Arthur, of whose dealings he very much complains; but, for his justification, and that it might appear, he did not put off Mr. Halsall with delays, he desired, I would discourse with sir Josuah Allen; who is Mr. Arthur's correspondent and agent, and is a man of as clear a reputation upon all accounts, as any man in this kingdom, and is as wise a man, as you shall meet with of his profession; which, to gratify my lord, and to serve Mr. Halsall, for whom I have and ought to have an esteem, I did. Sir Jos. Allen told me, my lord Longford was very much involved with Mr. Arthur; that Mr. Arthur had a tie upon the whole estate, and that my lord could not raise a shilling without Mr. Arthur joined with him; that Mr. Arthur had desired my lord L— to do several things, as to levy fines, &c. and to let him (sir Jos. Allen, as trustee for Mr. Arthur) into the possession of the buildings here, that he might receive the profits thereof, whereby to be paid his interest, and that then he, Mr. Arthur, would pay Mr. Halsall all his debt; that about 2 years since lord L— did all that Mr. Ar— desired, but that Mr. Halsall is not yet paid off, though it were upon that condition. Sir Jos. Allen further told me, that he did, at the request of my lord L—, some months since send to Mr. Arthur, that there was a considerable purchaser (who was in truth sir Rob. Colvill) in treaty with my lord L— to buy those buildings here, which would yield more than would satisfy Mr. Arthur and Mr. Halsall too; that he had very lately received Mr. Arthur's consent to join in any conveyance to a purchaser, as should be requisite; and that, as soon as the buildings were sold, Mr. Halsall should

should have his money : but he said, (for he would always deal clearly) that he feared, purchasers were not so forward now to lay out money, as they were some months since ; for he found, those, who had money, would not part with it, though upon ancient titles, and though they loved to make the advantage of it. To conclude, he told me in these words, my lord, I have had long dealings with Dan. Arthur for some hundred thousands of pounds ; and we never differed in accounts : but I must say, he has not dealt with my lord L—, as he ought to have done. Sir Jos. Allen further said, though Mr. Halsall was the best judge, when he had need of his money, yet he knew he was safe, and did receive his interest, and therefore it was hoped, he might be prevailed upon to have a little the more patience. In a word, sir Jos. Allen promised to do all he can to promote the sale of these buildings, and my lord L— in the presence of sir Jos. Allen has vowed to me, that he will be content to lose 1000l. in the purchase to raise the money for Mr. Halsall, and that he will do any thing shall be proposed to him ; for which sir Jos. Allen likewise undertakes : for my part, I believe him. Having thus told you the truth of the case, you know best, what to say to Mr. Halsall, and how to prevail with him not to incense the king against this poor lord, who intends well, and for whom sir Jos. Allen hopes to find one or more purchasers between this and the term ; and the forbearing can (as he said) do Mr. Halsall no prejudice, as matters stand. I must not end this letter without telling you one particular : I was told yesterday by a friend of mine, that a roman catholick (a great intimate of my lord Tyrconnel's) told him, that my lord Tyrconnel's

nel's great busines now was to push to have me recalled, and to be made lord lieutenant himself; and that nothing else would satisfy him, and some of the priests. This, he says, my lord Tyrconnel himself owned to him; and that my lord Tyrconnel likewise told him, the king would have half the army to be natives, and the other half English. If that be the matter, good god! why should not the chief governour be trusted with it? and why should it not be orderly done? which would make it well digest-ed, and not fright people out of their wits. This roman catholick told my friend, he did not bid him tell me this, but he was willing, I should know what was working; and to my own knowledge many of his own countrymen would be troubled to see him in that station: but that, as the king pleaseth. I tell you this stroy only, that you may know it: what use to make of it, you best know: I have no objection to the king's knowing it. If it be re-solved of, I do not think, you or I can change the reso-lution; but, if it were yet to be a secret, it may not be amiss, the king should see it is not so. My comfort is, I shall not be recalled for having done any ill thing; and I will always serve the king as well as I can, and as long as I live. God keep you, and my sister, and all yours.

To Lord D A R T M O U T H.

My Lord,

Dublin Castle, Sept. 4. 1686.

M^Y lord Tyrconnel went for England on the 26th of the last month: he resolved to stay a day or two at Chester to view the stores there, which are de-

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signed for this kingdom, some of which I have sent for ; the list whereof I send your lordship here enclosed, and I have sent Mr. Robinson to Chester to take charge of them. I have lately had a letter from the earl of Clanricard, when he went to take possession of his government of Galway ; in which he tells me, the mayor and corporation of that town had petitioned him for the opening a passage through the east citadel into the town ; that he had referred the petition to several of the town, and officers of the army, who are quartered there, and who have reported their opinions thereupon to his lordship ; copies of all which I here send to you. My lord Clanricard urgeth much the conveniency of opening this gate, and tells me, the town shall be obliged to make up the walls about the citadel, and to make gates and repair the drawbridges, without any expence to the king ; and he assures me, it will be a great strengthening to the place. Though it be very fit to hear the advice of a governour of a town, especially of such an one as my lord Clanricard, yet I think, your lordship should have an account of all these matters relating to the fortifications ; and therefore I will tell you the truth of the matter of fact. This gate, which is desired to be opened, was the usual way from the country into the citadel, and so into the town : there were then no fortifications. When the English got this town from the Irish in the late rebellion, the usurpers walled up this gate, and made another by-passage out of the country into the town without the citadel : so that there is now no way into the citadel, but through the town ; whereas formerly there was one likewise out of the country. The intention of Cromwell was to make the place the

the more safe against the natives, and, in order to that, he caused some little works to be made about the citadel: now, if this gate be opened, the passage must be through the horn-work. Your lordship may see all this very plainly in your draught of Galway; and I observe in that, if the king goes on with his design in making those fortifications, which are there marked, it is not intended to have any way into the citadel, but from the town, and none from the country. I beg your lordship to let me have your opinion in this particular. I am

Your Lordship's
most faithful humble servant,
CLARENDRON. C. P. S.

To Mr. BLATHWAIT.

Sir,

Dublin Castle, Sept. 4. 1686.

ON the 31st past I received yours of the 21st. I herewith send you the copy of the last muster rolls; which you had had sooner, but that we have had so much to do for all clerks (though there had been twice as many, as there are) by reason of those wonderful alterations, which have been made in our army here; and which, I must say, would have been done in a better method in England, than has been observed with us. This army is now above half natives of the country; but, if the king like it so, it is all well. I have some other things for you, which are transcribing; and you will now speedily have them. You will oblige me in sending me an account, how the army in England is quartered this winter,

M m m 2 ter,

ter, and what rules are made for the attendance of officers with their troops. I hear from William Trumbull, that he has his letters of revocation; but I wonder extremely, he should have a mind to go into Turkey, and cannot believe yet, he will go. I am very sorry for the death of sir William Stapleton: he was one of the best governours the king had in any of his plantations; and I doubt, his successor will come short of him. I am very glad, Mr. Stede gives so good satisfaction: I hope, nobody is appointed to supersede him. I have not heard any thing of late of the duke of Albemarle's speedy voyage into the West-Indies; and so long, I take it for granted, colonel Molesworth is safe in the government of Jamaica; which, I am sure, will be for the good of that island, and for the king's interest there. I hope, the king was well pleased with his progress into the west. I am with great truth,

Sir,

Your most affectionate servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Chapel Izod, Sept. 6. 1686.

I O M I T T E D to answer the last paragraph of your last letter concerning the roman catholick bishops. At the same time I received the king's letter for the payment of the money he designs to those bishops; which, within an hour after I had it, I communicated to the roman catholick primate, who was very well pleased; and the next

next day I ordered Mr. Price to pay the money to him. I think, your letter to me is sufficient, and that I shall not need any further directions. I will be sure to observe the king's commands in having these monies paid out of the revenues of the vacant bishopricks, in the manner you direct. Yesterday came in 3 packets from England; which brought me yours of the 26th, and 31st past. As to what you say of that matter, which gives me so much trouble (and I confess, I cannot bring my mind to so philosophical a temper, as a wise man should do) I will only give you this account at present, that, upon what this unfortunate woman's husband said to her before he went away, and what he has since writ to her, that it would be convenient for her to retire upon many accounts, and that it would please him better than any thing she could do, she told me a fortnight since, that she was offered a retreat at one Mr. Lefly's house; which I agreed to. They are two brothers, clergymen, who live together, and have very good women for their wives. They are very worthy men, and of good esteem in their calling: her husband knows them well. Thither she went on this day was a sennight. It is a private place in the north, 60 Irish miles from hence; that is, as far as from London to Bristol. There she may stay, as long as I will; and we will be thinking of another retreat: in the mean time she is out of view.

As to what you tell me of the queen's being extremely unsatisfied with me, I have given my sister a perfect account of that whole matter of fact; and I think, when it is considered, I shall not be blamed: I need therefore say no more to you upon it; only this, that nothing in this world.

world could be a greater mortification to me, than her majesty's displeasure. All the prospect I have of happiness is from her favour; and, when the queen knows the truth, she will not find, I have given this lady more countenance, than to others of her quality, whom I do not know: and I did not believe, her majesty would have had me taken so much notice of her, as to have used her worse than other people. If I have erred, I am sure, I did it ignorantly, and I will submit to any penance her majesty shall impose; which, without the other mortifications I daily have, would be too heavy a load. You know, I was never inclined to court fine great ladies, when it was in fashion; and I am not now like to fall into that track at my going out of the world.

I am abundantly satisfied with what you say to me about building at the castle, and am so perfectly of your mind, that, how short soever my stay be here, I will value myself (though my lord Tyrconnel laughs at me for it) for having never proposed any thing of expense to the king, which may but look like a convenience to myself, or which is not of advantage to his service. And so I have done with your first letter. I have nothing to reply to yours of the 31st, but to thank you for the endeavours you intend to use, that what Mr. Nangle proposeth may be transmitted hither. I am sure, all I aim at is, that the king may be truly informed of the state of things, and the true characters of persons here; and I think, it is evident, I can have no other end, but the king's service: and, if I have made one partial representation, or done any thing that looks like partiality since my being here, I would be very glad to be told the particular instance.

My

My lord Burlington hopes to imbark this evening. To-morrow morning I begin my progres: you shall hear from me from several places in it. God almighty keep you and all yours.

To the Lord T R E A S U R E R.

Kilkenny, Sept. 9. 1686.

ON sunday the 5th, when I came to Dublin in the morning, I was told, captain Arthur was gone the day before into Connaught to raise men for recruiting the regiment of guards; which upon enquiry I found to be true. It would at another time have been thought strange, that such a thing should have been attempted and done without order of the chief governour; and I am sure, I ought not to suffer it, whilst I have the honour to hold the king's sword. The lieutenant colonel told me, he was gone by my lord Tyrconnel's order. I asked, whether my lord Tyrconnel had ordered, that I should know nothing of it? to which he knew not what to say: and I not being satisfied with the lieutenant colonel's answer, who loves to command, and not to obey, I sent a messenger with an order to captain Arthur to return, who overtook him; and he came back, and found me on tuesday morning at sir Ar. Jones's, 12 miles from Dublin; where I was newly arrived, having that morning begun my progres. I asked him, how he came to go into Connaught, or anywhere else to raise men, without my order? He told me, he was commanded by his lieutenant colonel. I asked him for his order, which he produced; whereof here

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is a copy. I commanded him to go to Dublin, and not to stir from his company till my return; and I have sent an order to the lieutenant colonel not to send any of the officers into the country to raise men, without my further orders. I find, it is necessary to give you or some friend an account of all that passes; for, I understand, others make what representations they please; and, if they were all true, I did not care: and I give you this trouble, that you may be informed in this particular, when you find it necessary to take notice of it. My lord Tyrconnel had orders from me (by the king's command) to put out, and put in what men he thought fit; which was never done before, nor, I believe, would have been done to any one but me: but the king commanded, and I obeyed immediately, and never offered to interpose in the execution of those orders, notwithstanding (as I may say) the extravagancies that were committed. But, even by those orders, I am sure, if there had been occasion of sending into the countries to raise any numbers of men, he ought not to have done it, without my orders; much less to have left his orders behind him for the doing it; for the order mentioned in the enclosed to be given by my lord Tyrconnel (which has not been yet produced to me) was dated the 26th of august, which was the day he left Dublin. And that very day he was with me, and said nothing to me of it; so that I know no use of this method of proceeding, but on purpose to affront me; which, I am sure, is more a contempt upon the king's authority, than a prejudice to me. Though I will never do any thing in anger or peevishly, yet I must not, on the other hand, bear all the slights, which some people have a mind to put upon me;

HENRY EARL OF CLARENDON.

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me; and I could not shew a less resentment of this particular, than in sending for captain Arthur back again, and doing as I have done: and yet the regiment shall be recruited, and with such men too, as were designed. Many other observations may be made upon the enclosed order, which you will know how to do better than I: only it may not be amiss to tell you, that captain Arthur upon his own account has no more interest in Connaught, than I have. I am come thus far on my progres: tomorrow I leave this place, and my wife in it, till my return. God keep you and all yours.

To Lord Sunderland.

My Lord,

Kilkenny, Sept. 9. 1686.

I TOLD your lordship in my last, that I intended to make a short progres into Munster; in which I am thus far advanced, and doubt not at my return to give the king a good account of that whole province. I here met with captain Edward Fitz-Gerald, for whom I have several times solicited your lordship; he being in that list, which your lordship gave me (by the king's command) to be first provided for. It is a great mortification to the gentleman, after his long, faithful and constant services, and severe sufferings, to find himself quite forgotten, when so many of his countrymen are provided for: he resolves to make another journey into England to cast himself at his majesty's feet; and I cannot refuse to give him this opportunity to present himself to your lordship, humbly begging you to appear in his favour to the king,

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who cannot be kind to an honest man; who has the repute of all who know him to be as good an horse officer, as any the king has. Your lordship will forgive my earnest solicitation for him, when you consider, that I have no end in it but the king's service; and that I may not be thought unmindful of those, whom his majesty commanded me to put him in mind of: and I would be very unwilling, he should fare worse than others, by having been put into my hands. I am with very great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDON. C. P. S.

To the KING.

Sir,

Kilkenny, Sept. 9. 1686.

I AM now in a little progress towards Munster, where I purpose (god willing) to visit all your majesty's considerable ports; and doubt not, at my return but I shall give your majesty a good account of that province. I here met with captain Edward Fitz-Gerald, whom your majesty commanded me to bring over with me, and to take care of him: his name is in that list of persons, whom your majesty intended in the first place to provide for; and I have several times put my lord president in mind of him, though he hath hitherto been so unfortunate, as not to have tasted of your majesty's bounty among all the alterations, which have lately been made.

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This honest gentleman resolves to make another journey into England to throw himself at your majesty's feet. I can say nothing more on his behalf, than what your majesty knows already, that he hath been constantly in the service of the crown, (ever since the first breaking out of the rebellion) both here and in England; of which he carries the marks about him. I beg your majesty's pardon for this importunity; which, I doubt not, you will grant, when you consider, that it is in the behalf of a gentleman of so good merit, and whom your majesty yourself was pleased to put into my hands; and that I can have no end in soliciting for him, but your service: nor have I presumed to recommend any to your majesty's favour since I came hither, but those, who have always served you; and I think, they have been all roman catholicks. And I hope, your majesty will not believe me partial (though some men without ground are pleased to say so) without examining the particulars, for which I am thought to be so; and, whenever that is instanced, I will be content to be judged by whomsoever shall be appointed to examine it. God preserve your majesty; which is the constant prayer of,

Sir,

Your Majesty's &c.

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To the Lord TREASURER.

Waterford, Sept. 12. 1686.

10 at night sunday.

I LOVE to give you as frequent an account of myself and as often as I can; and therefore, though I have no publick affairs to entertain you with, I write this to let you know, that, as I intended, I left Kilkenny on friday, and came that afternoon hither; where I was received with as much demonstration of duty and loyalty to the king, as it was possible for men to make, if his majesty himself had been here. Yesterday I went down the river (a very noble one, not inferiour to the Thames) to Duncannon fort; and, having taken a view of it, and looked upon the block-house at passage, and dined with sir Jo. Ivory, I came back again hither by water in the evening. After I come back to Dublin, I will send you the observations I shall make upon the forts here, which I shall see. My lord of Tyrone came to me yesterday morning, and has continued with me all the time of my being here; (he lives about 8 miles from hence) but not one other of the roman catholick gentlemen have been with me: and in this city not one of the roman catholick inhabitants (and here are some pretty considerable merchants) hath taken notice of me. It is they make the distinction, and not I, as is very plain; for, I am sure, I am alike civil and obliging to them all, without making any difference between men of different religions. My lord Galmoy carried the sword before me, when I came

came into this city: he came with me, and has staid with me. I shall give you a further account of these matters in the rest of my progres: hitherto I have great reason to be abundantly pleased with what I have seen, and I doubt not, but I shall make my journey useful to the king's service; which is the only design in my undertaking it. Tomorrow I go hence to Lismore; and from Cork you shall have a further account from me. God almighty keep you, and my sister, and all yours.

To Lord SUNDERLAND.

My Lord,

Waterford, Sept. 12. 1686.

THOUGH your lordship cannot expect, I should have any busines to trouble you with from hence; yet I think it fit to give your lordship an account, that I am come thus far on my progress. I went yesterday down the river to Duncannon fort, and took a view of the block-house at passage; of the condition of which places, and of the rest of the forts which I shall see, I will give your lordship a particular account at my return to Dublin. The river is very large, and beautiful: ships of the burden of 800 tun come frequently to the quay of this city. The trade here at present is pretty brisk, though it is said to have been decaying these 9 or 10 years past; which can be imputed to nothing, but the natural shifting of trade, which happens all the world over: and I am sure, it is very much increased in other ports of this kingdom since the time mentioned. I find the people, both here and where I have been, as full of duty and loyalty

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loyalty to the king and his government, as it is possible to express ; and hope, I shall find them so in other parts. I leave this place tomorrow : on wednesday I shall be at Cork ; from whence I shall give your lordship an account of all that occurs. I am with great respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's
most faithful and most humble servant,

CLARENDRON. C. P. S.

To the Lord TREASURER.

Cork, Sunday, Sept. 19. 1686.

MY last to you was on this day sennight from Waterford : the next morning I left that town, and arrived at night at Lismore ; where my lord Burlington had given such orders, that we were as well entertained, (and my retinue was then grown pretty large) as if his lordship had been there himself. On tuesday, after a very good breakfast and destroying some of my lord's salmon, I left Lismore, and came that night to Youghall soon enough to see the harbour, and to make some observations upon matters there ; which I shall give account of, and which will be for the king's service. On wednesday morning, after I had viewed five companies of my lord Mountjoy's regiment (which are there quartered) and seen them exercise, I left Youghall. I dined at Castle-Martyr, Mr. H. Boyle's ; and in the evening I got to this town, where I lodged that night. On thursday morning I went to Bandon, where I dined : it is a very pretty town,

town, and well seated upon a fine river: it is an English plantation, made and settled by the old earl of Cork. That afternoon I went to Kinsale, where I lodged. Friday, after I had visited both the forts, and taken a view of the harbour (which is very well worth the seeing) I left Kinsale, and returned hither again that night. Yesterday I viewed the major general's regiment, which is all quartered here: I saw them exercise, which they performed as well, as is possible for such new men. Just before I left Kinsale I received 3 packets from England, with yours of the 7th instant, and several from the treasury chamber; to which, I hope, you do not expect answers till my return. I am fully satisfied, that you do not deliver my letter to the queen: pray tell me, if you would have me write another to her, and to what effect. If any thing were to be wondered at which some people do, I might wonder that my lord Tyrconnel should say, that he thought we were all agreed in what to offer to the king: if that had been so, it should have been transmitted to his majesty, and signed by every one of us. If I saw those minutes you mention, which were signed by some of the company, and if I were at Dublin with my papers, I could write more fully: but this I will say at the present, and (if I can trust my memory at this distance from my papers) you will find, in the account I gave my lord president of that last consultation, that I say, it was believed a parliament would give considerably, if possessions might be confirmed; but, if the money to be raised were to be distributed to satisfy such as ought to have been reprised with lands of equal value, worth and purchase, that it was believed, money would not.

not be given for that end. The act says, that such persons (therein mentioned) shall be restored to their estates, or to a certain proportion of them, (therein expressed) when the persons then in possession shall be first reprimed with lands of equal value, worth and purchase. The persons then in possession did not settle themselves, nor begin to plant, till the time allotted to the commissioners of the court of claims was expired ; but, had there been sufficient, the time of the commission being expired, no authority but those commissioners (who were then at an end) could grant reprisals ; nor not the king himself, without a new act of parliament. This being the case, and no prospect of another parliament, the persons then, and now in possession, fell to planting and improving ; which is now 19 years since. And now, after so many settlements, deaths, and alienations, as have been, to alter these proprieties would be looked upon as so great a breach upon the acts, as would fright all men who are concerned in the settlements, as well as those, who at the beginning ought to have been reprimed, if the stock had not failed. The shaking of possessions and titles, founded upon acts of parliament, is so nice, that men concerned fancy, there will be no end ; and they think, every branch may be as well invaded, as the possessions : and the whole drift of the acts (which seem now to be questioned) was to preserve and quiet the possessors. And an act of parliament (when the king thinks it seasonable to call a parliament) to confirm possessions (if it be odious to mention a commission) would, no question, procure a great sum of money ; out of which those might be gratified, who ought to be provided for. And this is not only the opinion of myself,

myself, and the others, who did not sign the minutes which my lord Tyrconnel shews ; but it is the opinion of very many honest Irish catholicks : and believe me, it will appear, (which I would say to the king himself, if I were now speaking to him) that the design of some, who brag of the power they have, is not so much to find a way to provide for those who want, as to unsettle all ; whereby they hope to get opportunities of making their own fortunes. Whatever my lord Tyrconnel and Mr. Nangle propose, it is still but the opinion of 2 men ; or, at most, what is aimed at by one side : and there is no doubt, but the king will, early or late, hear and examine the concerns of the other interests, there being the welfare of a whole great kingdom at stake, in the prosperity of which the king himself is infinitely concerned ; and he will find, that some people carry on other interests more than his. In mine from Waterford I told you, that very few of the roman catholicks had then appeared among the multitude of those who met me in the country : I can still say, that hitherto (though I have been met with by thousands since I left Kilkenny) there have not appeared 10 roman catholicks, and some of those have even owned to me, that they are out of countenance to see their countrymen so backward ; which has been so much taken notice of in this town, that some have spoken of it to the major general ; who seemed uneasy at it, and there-upon asked me, if I would give the roman catholick bishop of this place leave to come to me. I told him, that bishop used to visit me at Dublin ; that he knew, he might come to me when he pleased ; that I made no distinction of persons, or nations ; and, if any one thought

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I did, I would take it for a great favour to be told so: and this evening that bishop was with me. The major general likewise asked me, if I would give some roman catholick merchants leave to come to me. I made him the same answer, as to the other, but with this further, that I wondered, those gentlemen did not appear with the rest of their society, especially now being freemen of the city: to which he made no reply, but this evening brought 4 merchants to me, when their bishop came. The best way to serve the king I take to be uniting all people, that they may all join together in promoting the trade, and other publick affairs of the kingdom; and I am sure, I am not backward in my endeavours therein: but I must needs say, by what I have hitherto observed I find, the natives will scarce hold any communication with the English, and will hardly treat them with common civility. At my return, when I have finished my progres, you shall know what other observations I have made. Tomorrow I leave this place: you shall hear again from me from Lymerick. God keep you, and my sister, and all yours.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

